

## Afghan rebels deny accord

SLAMARAD (R) — Afghan rebels Sunday denied agreeing to talk with President Najibullah's Soviet-backed government, apparently rejecting an offer of mediation by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. "We are not ready to have any kind of direct or indirect contact with the puppet regime," a statement by the Pakistan-based Afghan rebel government said. "Thus there is no possibility of anyone serving as mediator between the two sides," it said. An Arafat envoy said in the Afghan capital Kabul Saturday that Najibullah and several Mujahideen guerrilla groups fighting to overthrow his government had agreed to the Palestinian leader's proposal of ending the decade-long war. Envoys also told Reuters that Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto had also agreed to Arafat's plan, which calls for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire and for all involved in the conflict to begin talks. No reaction was available from the Pakistani authorities. Arafat visited Islamabad on June 24, when he said he had launched an Afghan peace initiative.

# Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردن تايمز مؤسسة صحفية مستقلة بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة العربية للدراسات والبحوث

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## CC, Jordan sign headquarter agreement

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab League Operation Council (ACC) and the Jordanian government today signed an accord providing the ground for the establishment of the ACC headquarters in Amman.

The accord was signed by ACC Secretary General Hilmi Qasem and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem.

Following the signing ceremony at the Foreign Ministry, Qasem voiced Jordan's welcome of the commencement of ACC's operations in Amman and pledged the government's readiness to provide all facilities to help the ACC carry out its duties as best as possible.

The signing of the accord today, he said, was in implementation of resolutions taken

by the heads of state of Egypt, Iraq, North Yemen and Jordan, who launched the ACC in Baghdad last February.

The formation of the ACC came at a time when the Arab World was in dire need of closer coordination and cooperation in the face of common challenges, Qasem said.

Nasrallah said the accord entails privileges and facilities provided by the Jordanian government to the ACC secretariat to enable it to shoulder its various responsibilities.

Sunday's signing ceremony was attended by the ambassadors of the other three members of the economic bloc, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen.

The alliance aims at achieving pan-Arab economic integration.

## 2-year-old killed in Idna

## Uprising leaders assail U.S. stand

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (J.T.) — Underground leaders of the Palestinian uprising today condemned the U.S. position in the Middle East as "biased towards the Zionists" and called for international pressure on the United States.

On Sunday, a 12-year-old Idna boy was shot and killed in a clash between troops and e-shooters in the West Bank of Idna.

The clash erupted when troops countered violent resistance as they entered the village to arrest suspects, an army spokesman said.

The victim, identified as Khalil Al Tabran, was shot in the head and pronounced dead on arrival at Alia hospital in nearby Iron, hospital officials said.

His death raised to 539 the number of Palestinians killed in 18-month revolt.

The Palestinian condemnation of the United States, contained in latest uprising leaflet, came as President George Bush recently sent a letter of support to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Israeli Radio said Bush read Shamir of his "full backing" for the Israeli plan that calls for balloting in the occupied territories and negotiations with elected Palestinians on autonomy.

Shamir's spokesman Avi Paz said the Bush letter has not been received yet.

At the same time, the daily Haaretz newspaper reported that it was angry over Shamir's renewed support for building Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, which run counter to U.S. policy calling for a pull-out of Israeli troops from the West Bank.

Haaretz quoted Bush as saying he did not understand this Shamir's

as he banged his palm on a table at a meeting in Washington. The paper said the session was attended by American Jewish leader Seymour Reich and Senator Daniel Inouye, a Hawaii Democrat.

## Firebombs thrown

Two firebombs were thrown at a library, setting it ablaze, early Sunday in the Jewish quarter of Jerusalem's walled Old City.

Police said no one was hurt in the fire that erupted at 2.30 a.m. (2330 GMT Saturday) but books, furniture and the library itself were damaged.

Fire fighters put out the blaze while police searched for the arsonists.

The Palestinian leaflet noted "the deteriorating economic situation" in Israel and called for further boycott of Israeli products.

For the first time, Palestinian ringleaders called for a two-day strike among the 810,000 Israeli Arabs and urged them to "provide material aid and food" to their brethren in the occupied lands.

Palestinian groups have recently increased their efforts aimed at encouraging Israeli Arabs to join the uprising.

"The Voice of Jerusalem" radio station run by a Palestinian faction in Syria began broadcasting names of Israeli Arabs from the Galilee, accusing them of collaborating with "the Zionist enemy," Israeli news reports said.

On Sunday, the Al Hamishmar daily quoted lawmaker Raanan Cohen, a Labour Party expert on Arabs, as saying that Israeli Arabs have been involved in more than 1,000 nationalist attacks since the uprising began in December 1987.

## Jordan reaffirms support for PLO efforts for peace

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Sunday reaffirmed its total support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and its endeavours to achieve a just and durable solution of the Palestinian problem.

"Jordan welcomes the ongoing U.S.-PLO dialogue, which aims to achieve that goal and to resolve the Middle East conflict," Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker said at a meeting with U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch.

The prime minister and the visiting U.S. senator reviewed Middle East developments, and efforts to end the crisis in Lebanon. Hatch said his country supports the Arab League three-member mediation committee's efforts to find an end to Lebanese civil war.

The prime minister and the senator also discussed the situation in the Gulf region and both emphasised the need for comprehensive peace between Iran and Iraq through the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

They also reviewed Jordan-U.S. relations and means of developing bilateral cooperation in

all fields.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem and U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Roscoe Suddarth.

Qasem had a meeting earlier with the senator.

Hatch also met with Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi, who reaffirmed Jordan's position with regard to peace in the region and the need for Israeli withdrawal from lands occupied since 1967.

Lawzi told the senator that Israel's repressive and inhuman measures against the Palestinian people are worsening the situation in the region.

He called for the application of human rights principles and Geneva conventions and also the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Lawzi also briefed the senator on Jordan's parliamentary march over the years.

Hatch told Lawzi that the United States would continue to support Middle East peace efforts and to bolster its ties and cooperation with Jordan.

## Arab, Soviet mediators meet Syrian leaders

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Three Arab ministers and a Soviet envoy met Syrian officials Sunday for separate talks aimed at bringing peace to Lebanon, where shelling killed 13 more people Saturday.

Diplomats said the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria had talks with their Syrian counterpart Farouq Al Sharaa on efforts to end 14 years of sporadic civil war.

They were expected to meet President Hafez Al Assad before leaving for Baghdad for similar talks with Iraqi leaders.

Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh arrived for talks in Damascus from Baghdad, where he delivered a message from President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Gorbachev met an envoy of the three-man Arab League peace-making committee in Moscow last week and expressed readiness to talk to Syria and Iraq about ending the violence.

The Soviet Union is an ally of both Syria and Iraq, who support rival governments in Lebanon.

Since mid-March 400 people have been killed in artillery battles between forces loyal to Major-General Michel Aoun, who heads a military government, and Syrian troops and their allies, who back a civilian government led by Salim Al Hoss.

Syrian newspapers Sunday dismissed Iraq's statement Saturday that it was ready to stop arms shipments to Aoun, describing it as a "manoeuvre to delude

Arabs."

Algerian Foreign Minister Boualem Bessaieb told reporters on arrival that the committee would try to enforce a fragile ceasefire and pave the way for a political solution.

Amid Sunday's shellfire in Beirut, rival Shi'ite militias clashed in street battles in west Beirut in their first major confrontation in weeks.

Sunday's fatalities included three Aoun soldiers wounded in fighting around the mountain stronghold of Souq Al Gharb last week who died in hospital at the weekend, police said.

Guns blasted the residential districts of Ashrafieh and Fum Al Shubak in east Beirut with sustained artillery barrages through the night.

Then they shelled the shoreline of the besieged Aoun enclave. The two sides also fought with tanks around Souq Al Gharb, 16 kilometres southeast of Beirut.

Police said Aoun's gunners unleashed intermittent barrages of shellfire against batteries along seaside boulevards in west Beirut's 'Ain Mreisseh and Raouche districts. No hits were reported.

Police reported two people were killed and nine wounded in the gunbattles that raged all night and Sunday morning between the Shi'ite Amal militia and the rival pro-Iranian Hizbollah.

The secular Amal and the fundamentalist Hizbollah are battling for dominance of Lebanon's one million Shi'ites, the country's largest sect.



KING VISITS ARMY UNIT: His Majesty King Hussein Sunday paid a visit to the 12th Royal Mechanised Division, where he was briefed by the division's commander and senior officers on the division's duties and tasks. The King toured one of the formations of the division and was briefed on its duties. Later King Hussein toured frontline units and one of the frontline military posts where he received a warm welcome and met with the unit's personnel. The King was accompanied by Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleh (Petra photo)

## Panel reviews monetary, foreign exchange situation

AMMAN (Petra) — The Prime Minister's Economic and Financial Committee Sunday reviewed the monetary situation and the foreign exchange markets in Jordan as well as currency fluctuations and the resulting increase in the prices of some commodities and raw materials.

At a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, the committee listened to a full explanation by Finance Minister Basel Jaraneh on the situation of treasury and the measures proposed by the government in accordance with the government's public spending plan for 1989.

Jardaneh also briefed the committee on the basis and principles which should govern the preparation of the 1990 budget, to cope with the reform plan.

The committee also listened to a briefing by Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Sa'ad Al Nabulsi on the monetary policy followed by the bank to stabilise the dinar. The CBJ's recent intervention in the foreign exchange market, which took the form of providing foreign exchange to commercial banks, has proved to be effective in organising the monetary market.

Nabulsi described as totally baseless suggestions and rumours that the CBJ planned to force foreign currency depositors to shift to the local currency or to use their total deposits as CBJ reserves.

He noted that the CBJ law had provided significant monetary tools to ensure monetary liquidity and safeguard deposits in local and foreign currencies.

## U.S. senator urges increased aid to Jordan

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Jordan should be given increased American aid, especially in view of its current economic difficulties and in appreciation of its positive and constructive contribution to efforts to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict, an American senator said Sunday.

In an informal chat with the editor-in-chief of the Jordan Times, Senator Orrin Hatch, a Republican from Utah, described His Majesty King Hussein as a heroic leader and said Jordan was a principal actor in any effort for peace in the region, and its moderate approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict was highly commendable.

Hatch, who is on a fact-finding mission and is scheduled to return to Israel Monday for talks with Israeli government leaders, voiced cautious optimism over Middle East peace efforts.

He described Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's proposal for Palestinian elections in the occupied territories as a "bold stroke" and said he supported it in principle. But, he added that he needs to know more about the plan before any further comment since "one does not know what Shamir has up his sleeve."

The senator said he saw the PLO had taken a "very courageous and bold step" towards peace with its new moderate approach. While conceding that the 18-month-old Palestinian uprising was the catalyst in reinvigorating the peace process, the senator expressed the opinion that the



Sen. Orrin Hatch

continuation of the revolt "will not be much helpful since it will strengthen the hands of extremists in Israel."

He said he planned to include in his discussions in Israel the occupation authorities' practices against the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The senator said President George Bush had adopted a highly positive approach towards efforts for peace in the Middle East and expressed confidence in the administration's policies in the region.

He said Bush had an equally capable secretary of state in James Baker, as opposed to George Shultz who served Bush's predecessor Ronald Reagan.

According to the Senator, Shultz had pursued a "negative" approach to the Middle East and voiced hope that the Bush administration would be able to set things straight.

The senator, who was received by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi and Deputy Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, described his visit to Jordan and his talks here as highly informative and constructive.



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## Sudan leader to rule with iron hand

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Sudanese coup leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir has set out to rule with an iron fist and vowed to end the civil war in the south.

An obscure brigadier who ed power Friday, Bashir, 45, promising death to smugglers, black marketers and says his lawing of all political parties is needed to be permanent.

His coup ended three years of civilian coalition governments led by Sudan's first president, Nuri Al Mahdi, who died in 1969.

Low head of state, commander-in-chief, defence minister and moved to the rank of lieutenant-general, Bashir has imposed nationwide state of emergency, suspended the constitution and dissolved parliament, parties and unions.

The Al Guwat Al Musalaha newspaper, quoted Bashir as saying that resolving the southern war, which has cost the government \$1 million a day and has ruined the faltering economy, is the new regime's main priority.

He was quoted in another interview as saying that he supported friendly relations with all Arab countries and "balanced

and non-aligned" relations with the two super powers.

Bashir said the only fatality in the coup had been the shooting and killing by mistake of an unidentified army major who had been trying to enter his army barracks in Omdurman by jumping over a wall.

"The main choice and overall concentration will be reaching a radical and lasting solution" to the civil war, Bashir told the army newspaper.

He said he planned to contact the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and its "influencing friends," a clear reference to Ethiopia and Kenya which Sudan has accused of providing military and financial aid to the rebels.

Bashir also stressed that his approach to resolving the war would be "through dialogue and negotiation" and said more details would be provided in a statement within the next two days.

In the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, SPLA spokesman continued to refuse to comment on the new military leadership and promised the AP in a statement Monday.

A round of peace talks between the rebels and Mahdi's government had been scheduled to resume in Addis Ababa Tuesday. The rebels started the war to demand more autonomy and administrative and economic reforms in the south.

In another interview with the Egyptian Middle East News Agency's Khartoum correspondent, Bashir said that issues of controversy like the Islamic laws would be settled in a national referendum. He did not elaborate.

Shortly after the takeover, Bashir promised a non-partisan, non-racist government, without specifically talking about the strict Islamic criminal laws.

He has sacked 30 senior army officers and jailed Mahdi, cabinet ministers and other politicians who diplomats say may number in hundreds. He also imposed a night curfew and closed Khartoum airport except for flights taking pilgrims to Saudi Arabia.

A decree broadcast on state radio Sunday said that "to ease the suffering of the citizens" the military council was setting up special courts with power to sentence profiteers to death and confiscate their goods and wealth.

Western diplomats said Bashir might be promising more than he could deliver and cautioned against interpreting a post-coup calm in Khartoum as proof his 15-man junta was firmly in control.

"It is still too early to tell. It will take several more days for one to say the new regime is there to stay," said a senior Cairo-based Western diplomat.

Egypt Saturday became the first country to recognise the military junta. On Sunday, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and North Yemen extended good wishes to the new regime.

On domestic issues, Bashir accused Sudan's 36 political parties — which he disbanded on Friday — of corruption and said he did not intend to allow them to be formed again. He accused Mahdi's government of being the "regime of corruption" and said he was still studying new ways to organise popular participation in power.

He told an army unit Saturday there would be a "war on those who are corrupt, those who take bribes and steal the food of the people," in the next few days.

بشير في السلطة



**By Anton Ferreira**  
*Reuter*

"Usually they come at night, after 10 p.m. and maybe at two a.m.," he said. "The troops surround the village and then Shin Bet (security police) search the houses for suspects." The shopkeeper's brother

The entrance to the village, at the end of a pot-holed road 10 minutes' drive from the walls of Old Jerusalem, is flanked by boulders used as blockades to slow troops arriving to crush demonstrations.



"Everybody complies with them," said the shopkeeper.

"It has had a very bad effect economically," said the shopkeeper. "Apart from the strikes, people are afraid to leave home to go to work in

**"Our children are losing their futures," said the shopkeeper. He said that as much as the villagers resented Israeli troops, they reserved a special**

"The beginning we didn't hate the settlers," he said. "They are human beings like us. But now..."

Chief Justice Ayatollah Abdolkarim Musavi Ardebili was citing results of an investigation into Khomeini's assets. Such an inquiry is required in Iran when an official ends his term of office.

But the inquiry went ahead on the request of Khomeini's son, Ahmad, who was also investigated and found not to have any significant assets, IRNA said.

The 5,608-ton West German  
flagged Seacrest Pioneer had

al Products Company of Duesseldorf, which contracted to deliver

He also said port officials told him they had not received any

widely tipped to win the presidency and is expected to receive wide-ranging new powers because of the changes to the con-

## Blast wounds 2 SLA men

**RASHAYA (AP)** — Two militiamen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) were wounded Sunday when their armoured personnel carrier hit a mine in South Lebanon, police reported. A police spokesman said the explosion occurred at 9 a.m. (0600 GMT) in Kfar Falous in Israel's self-designated "security zone," a strip of Lebanese border territory the Israelis have occupied since 1985. The spokesman said the SLA retaliated by shelling the villages of Ka'kaiyat al Jisr and Zoutar Sharqiyyeh. No casualties were reported from the shelling.

## Israeli mayors protest

**TEL AVIV (AP)** — Thirty mayors of Israel's poorest development towns chained themselves to a fence outside Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office Sunday and traded blows with police to press their demands for economic aid. The mayors met Shamir and Finance Minister Shimon Peres to discuss their town's economic hardships after heated exchanges with government ministers who left the weekly cabinet session to calm the demonstrators. The development towns, home mostly to poor immigrants, have a collective deficit of about 170 million shekels (\$85 million), and the mayor's said Israel's growing unemployment problems hit them hardest. They demanded emergency government loans and investments to ease their economic burden. The angry demonstration came as Israeli newspapers carried forecasts that unemployment, now at 8.6 per cent, will reach 10 per cent by the year's end, the highest figure in two decades. The mayors said only one-tenth of Israel's 4.4 million residents live in development towns but one third of the unemployed come from the towns.

## Mubarak meets U.S. lawmakers

**ALEXANDRIA (AP)** — Fourteen U.S. congressmen on a fact-finding mission was received Sunday by President Hosni Mubarak. The fact-finding mission of the United States would continue its support of Egyptian policies following a 90-minute meeting in the Mediterranean city, the head of the delegation, Representative William Gray, D., Pennsylvania, told reporters after his meeting with Mubarak was "outstanding. It provided us with an opportunity to review our commitment to Egypt." Gray is on the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee. "We had a very good discussion on our regard to the International Monetary Fund and President Mubarak's concerns about the United States' continued support," Gray said. "I think I can speak on behalf of the entire delegation, Democrats and Republicans, that we will look forward to going back to provide support for the people of Egypt," he added.

## Iran poll registration closes

**NICOSIA (R)** — Registration of candidates for Iran's July 28 presidential election closed Sunday with 62 names on the list. Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani is the only one whose name has been officially published, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported. Rafsanjani is considered the front-runner to succeed Ali Khamenei. The Council of Guardians will vet candidates and announce the names of those qualified within five to 10 days. It is expected to eliminate all but a handful of candidates, as in the last polls four years ago when only four people stood.

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### PROGRAMME ONE

15:30	.....	Koran
15:35	.....	Programme review
15:45	.....	Children programmes
17:00	.....	Flying Doctors
18:00	.....	News summary in Arabic
18:05	.....	Local series
19:15	.....	Local programme
19:40	.....	Programme review
20:00	.....	News in Arabic
20:30	.....	Arabic script
21:30	.....	Programme review
21:40	.....	Local programmes
23:00	.....	News summary in Arabic

### PROGRAMME TWO

18:00	.....	Les Pique Assiettes
18:30	.....	Documentary
19:00	.....	News in French
19:15	.....	Weekly Sport magazine
19:30	.....	News in Hebrew
19:45	.....	Documentary
20:30	.....	The Golden Girls
21:10	.....	"Around the World in 80 Days"
22:00	.....	News in English
23:30	.....	Gentlemen and Player

### PRAYER TIMES

03:55	.....	Fajr
05:20	.....	(Sunrise) Duha
12:40	.....	Dhuhr
16:20	.....	'Asr
19:50	.....	Maghrib
21:25	.....	Isha

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## WEATHER

*Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.*

It will be relatively hot and winds will be northwesterly moderate to fresh. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min/max. temp.  
Amman ..... 18 / 34

Other officials said they had reports that Bulgaria recently stopped issuing new passports until Sept. 1 and was keeping back young men for military service. Kenan Guven, governor of neighbouring Kırklareli province, told Reuters the number of re-

Turkey, a member of the NATO western alliance, was not hopeful about Soviet efforts to start a dialogue between its Warsaw Pact ally and Ankara, according to diplomats.

**ZARQA:**  
Dr. Farah Aqrabawi ..... 987725  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417

## EMERGENCIES

Defence Department .....	661111
Defence Immediate .....	630341
Defence Emergency .....	199
Defence Police .....	152, 621111
Defence Post .....	637728
Defence Bank .....	753171
Defence Way Police .....	343402
Defence Department .....	896390
Defence Security Department .....	303921
Defence Complaints .....	603900
Defence Complaints .....	661176
Defence Complaints .....	897467
Defence Municipality .....	787111
Defence Complaints .....	612301
Defence Phone Information .....	121
Defence (directory assistance) .....	612301
Defence Armazem Telephone .....	612301
Defence Repairs .....	660330
Defence Repairs .....	660330
Defence Television .....	731111
Defence Jordan .....	774111
Defence .....	660100
Defence Electricity .....	815151
Defence Power .....	693681
Defence Company .....	684300
Defence .....	684300
Defence Asa Ind. Airport .....	684300

## HOSPITALS

**AMMAN:**  
Hussein Maternity Centre ..... 8138132/3  
Al-Jazeera Hospital ..... 646881/9  
Abdullah Medical Centre, Amn ..... 642441/2  
Jahid Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 6330  
Al-Jazeera, Shmeisani ..... 664171/4  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Al-Jazeera, Shmeisani ..... 67227/9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/7  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Al-Jazeera, Shmeisani ..... 67227/9  
Al-Bashir, J. Asrafieh ..... 775111/2  
Army, Marka ..... 891661/5  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 664155  
Amni Hospital ..... 674155

**ZARQA:**  
Al-Jazeera, Marka Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)983071  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732

**IBSD:**  
Prince Basmah Hospital ..... (02)275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02)275575  
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital ..... (02)247100

**HAIFA:**  
Al-Jazeera, Haifa Hospital ..... (03)314111

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

**QUEEN ALIA  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

*This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.*

**ARRIVALS**

**Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights**  
(Terminal 1)

10:00	..... Damascus (RJ)
10:30	..... Sana'a (RJ)
10:30	..... Athens (RJ)
10:30	..... Jeddah (RJ)
10:45	..... Cairo (RJ)
10:50	..... Kuwait (RJ)
10:45	..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:45	..... Larnaca (RJ)
11:15	..... Beirut (RJ)
11:45	..... Cairo (RJ)
12:00	..... New York, Vienna (RJ)
12:15	..... Istanbul (RJ)
12:30	..... Athens (RJ)
13:00	..... Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
13:30	..... Bangkok (RJ)
14:00	..... Beirut (RJ)
14:15	..... Baghdad (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)	10:30	..... Dubai (EK)
09:30	11:10	..... Frankfurt (LH)
	14:00	

13:00	Istanbul (TK)	14:20	Cairo (MS)
13:20	Cairo (MS)	16:00	Shanghai (CS)
13:25	Bahrain (GF)	19:25	Baghdad (AF)
13:40	Baghdad (AF)	00:30	Baghdad (AF)
18:25	Paris (AF)	01:15	Kuwait (AF)
19:10	Kuwait (KU)		Paris (AF)
00:15	Baghdad (AF)		

### DEPARTURES

#### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

08:00	Agaba (RJ)
11:40	Baghdad (RJ)
11:45	Rome (RJ)
12:15	Montreal, New York (RJ)
13:30	Yokohama, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:40	Istanbul (RJ)
12:45	Jeddah (RJ)
13:40	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
13:45	Casablanca (RJ)
14:00	Jeddah (RJ)
20:30	Dhahran (RJ)
21:30	Kuwait (RJ)
21:40	Jeddah (RJ)
21:45	Jeddah (RJ)
21:50	Baghdad (RJ)
21:55	Cairo (RJ)
22:00	Dammam (RJ)
22:00	Abu Dhabi (RJ)
	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:30	London (BA)
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### MARKET PRICES

	Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Apple (golden)	350 / 320
Apple (russet)	320 / 280
Apple (musk)	320 / 280
Apricot	320 / 280
Banana	400 / 350
Banana (Muskmanan)	320 / 300
Beans	350 / 320
Cabbage	130 / 100
Carrot	130 / 100
Cauliflower	130 / 100
Cherry	320 / 280
Corn	320 / 280
Cucumbers	170 / 140
Eggplant	180 / 140
Garlic	320 / 280
Grapes	320 / 280
Grapes (red)	320 / 280
Leek	300 / 280
Lemon (green)	620 / 600
Marrow	320 / 280
Okra	170 / 140
Onion (dry)	320 / 280
Onion (wet)	180 / 140
Pepper (hot)	220 / 200
Pepper (sweet)	220 / 200
Potato	140 / 100



## 'Jordan ideal economic partner for India'

By Rania Atalla  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's highly skilled manpower, developed infrastructure, membership in the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) and strong bilateral relations with neighbouring Arab countries, as well as its special relation with the European Community make the kingdom an ideal venue for India's mutually beneficial economic cooperation, according to the outgoing Indian Ambassador to Jordan, Gurcharan Singh.

Both sides turned a new leaf of cooperation with last month's Indo-Jordanian investment fundable conference held in Amman and are now slowly moving towards increased trade and industrial ties, said the ambassador, who was speaking in an interview with the Jordan Times on the eve of the end of his three-and-a-half year tenure in Jordan.

Among the envisaged avenues of cooperation are increased commercial exchanges, joint ventures and common projects, which should be facilitated by the existing complementarities between the two countries, said the ambassador.

"There is a vast scope for cooperation between India and Jordan," Singh said. "Jordan is an ideal location for Indo-Jordanian high technology industries in the field of telecommunications as well as medium technology projects," he said.

Reflecting on his term of office in Amman, which saw the emergence of boosted bilateral relations and exchange of high-level visits, the ambassador paid tribute to

"the dedication and hard work of my predecessors" and said the working relations between the Indian and Jordanian governments were in "excellent" shape. "We were met with appreciation, understanding and desire for cooperation and strong relations," he said.

The personal rapport between His Majesty King Hussein and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was a highly positive contribution to the state of relations, he added.

Despite increased interaction between the two countries on the scientific and technological levels, relations in the commercial field had for a while acquired, what Singh called, a "one-dimensional" aspect.

India's import from Jordan, mainly phosphates and related products, reached \$110 million last year, but its exports of tea, textiles and spices to the Kingdom were worth \$10 million only. During last month's roundtable meetings between Jordanian and Indian businessmen, tentative agreements were reached to set up a number of joint projects, one of which is related to phosphates and fertilisers at a total of \$1.2 billion.

Other tentative agreements reached included one to set up a textile mill at an estimated cost of \$15 million and another to establish a plant in Chidiya, Jordan, to produce 600,000 tonnes of phosphoric acid.

Singh, 50, who joined the Indian foreign service in 1964 and served as ambassador in Ghana and non-resident envoy to three other African countries, said Jordan's achievements in the last two



Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem Sunday presents traditional Jordanian dish to Indian Ambassador Gurcharan Singh with a traditional

departing gift at a lunch he hosted on the occasion of the end of tenure of the Indian envoy.

decades were "excellent," especially with the Kingdom's high literacy rate, advanced health care system and developed infrastructure.

"Apart from the present passing difficulties, Jordan's growth has been phenomenal," the ambassador said. "The country's achievements speak for themselves and they speak very well," he added.

### Positive developments

On the political front, Singh sees positive developments in the Middle East that would contribute to the resolution of the Palestinian problem. He lists those developments as the Palestine Liberation Organisation's

(PLO) positive reaction to demands made by the U.S. administration of negotiating a solution within the framework of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, as well as the unanimous support of the Arab World and Non-Aligned World of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's moves following the declaration of an independent Palestinian state by the Palestinian National Council on Nov. 15.

The ambassador reaffirmed India's traditional support for the Palestinian struggle and its attitude towards Israel. He said India would continue its support for peace efforts exerted by the Palestinians led by the PLO.

"The lead has to be taken by the PLO... The Palestinians and the PLO will find that India, being consistent with its convictions and policies for the past 40 years, will support them in whatever action they take towards the resolution of the conflict," he said.

Singh said there was no change in India's stand that any relations with Israel hinge on the Zionist state's recognition of the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people and an end to its occupation of Arab territories.

"The logical assumption is that if the solution is acceptable to the Palestinians then India will support it and act accordingly," he said.

## Joint Jordan-Syria Higher Committee to meet in Damascus Sunday

## Jordan, Syria to chart new programmes for future cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — The joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee is to meet in Damascus Sunday under the co-chairmanship of the prime minister of the two countries to review bilateral cooperation and to chart new programmes for future cooperation.

An announcement by the Cabinet Sunday said that the coming Jordanian delegation to the higher committee meeting will be led by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and will include Deputy Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and will include Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Economic Affairs Taher Al Masri. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayoub, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib, Minister of Water and Irrigation Mohammad Saleh Al Kailani, Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Innab, Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Hikmat Al Khammash, as well as other officials.

According to the announcement, the higher committee will review cooperation in mineral resources, agriculture, industry, marketing of agricultural products, supply, trade exchanges, transport, electricity and pharmaceuticals.

It said that the committee will

also discuss progress of joint projects such as the Land Transport Company, the white cement industry, the pesticides, the carpeting industry and the joint free zone areas.

The Cabinet Sunday announced its approval of exemptions from customs duty and other taxes for a number of industrial and tourist projects within the framework of a law for encouraging investment in the country.

The announcement said that the total capital invested in these projects amounts to JD 2.5 million and they are expected to employ 290 workers.

The projects to be set up range from food processing plants to pharmaceuticals and plastic products.

According to the announcement 65 per cent of the input to be used in these projects is produced in Jordan.

Also Sunday, the Cabinet announced the appointment of Mohammad Saleh Al Hourani and Dr. Michael Marito to the post of deputy governors of the

Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ). Hourani, who is specialised in accountancy, had filled a number of posts in the past, one of which was secretary general of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Besides his new post, Hourani will continue to serve as director general of the Cities and Villages Development Bank.

Marito, a former senior executive at the Central Bank of Jordan, had served also as economic advisor to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and general manager of the Bank of Jordan.

The Cabinet, at a meeting Saturday endorsed an agreement with Australia under which the latter will provide Jordan with a 1.573 million Australian-dollar grant to help finance the development of semi arid regions in the Kingdom.

In a session held Saturday under the chairmanship of Sharif Zaid, the Cabinet endorsed regulations amending the honorary consuls law and laws related to allowances of engineers, doctors and pharmacists.

The Cabinet also agreed to exempt imports used in the process of production from customs and endorsed an agreement signed in Alexandria in June granting the Arab Cooperation Council's General Secretariat immunity and privileges.

## Arab civil aviation meeting seeks to implement Alexandria resolutions

BAGHDAD (J.T.) — Heads of Civil Aviation Authorities in the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries opened a meeting here to discuss unified regulations for their airlines in implementation of resolutions taken by the Alexandria ACC summit meeting.

The two-day talks will cover the question of unifying the airspace of Egypt, Iraq, North Yemen and Jordan, unification of regulations concerning formalities related to passports, customs services and other duties, early agreements between members of the four countries and sounding out the prospect of forming joint airline.

Also on the agenda is a proposal for the creation of a joint airline together with its affiliated repair and maintenance centres.

All heads of civil aviation authorities attending the opening session, voiced their determination to pursue efforts for the implementation of the Alexandria resolutions with the purpose of corroborating the integration of the four Arab countries.

They said that the Baghdad meeting was only the first step towards the achievement of the common goal and noted that unless unification happens now "the ACC's civil aviation will be facing greater challenges in the future."

In March the ACC countries

agreed to open their airspace for each other and to consider air travel between them as domestic flights.

The announcement was made by Royal Jordanian Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Ali Ghandour upon returning here from a meeting in Cairo with the heads of civil aviation authorities and national airlines of the four ACC countries.

Ghandour said that the four countries also agreed to maintain close coordination among their respective airlines, especially in airfares, with a view to encouraging citizens from the four countries to travel by air via the respective airlines.

## NAF board reviews aid to the needy

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The National Aid Fund's (NAF) board of directors convened for the second time in 1989 under the chairmanship of Minister of Social Development Zuhair Malhas to review topics on the agenda and which concern the fund's assistance to the needy families of Jordan.

The minister was quoted as stressing the importance of ex-

panding the fund's operations to cover as many needy and poor people as possible.

The board discussed means to augment the fund's resources and reviewed 1988 operations which included providing financial assistance to families, financing vocational training programmes and granting lump sum assistance to families who lost their breadwinners.

The board also reviewed progress of a study on pockets of poverty and a board source said that the study will be completed by the end of the current month.

NAF Director General Khalil Faouri said in a television interview last month nearly 9,000 needy families receive monthly assistance from the fund, at the rate of up to JD 40.

## Course on combatting locusts to begin

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A training course on means of combatting desert locusts in the Middle East region will begin here on July 7 with the participation of delegates from Jordan and other countries in the region, according to an announcement here Sunday.

The announcement said that the two-week seminar will orient the participants on the various types

of equipment used in the locust combatting operations and various forms and types of pesticides used in these operations.

The announcement said that the seminar will be organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, which is in charge of locust fighting teams, and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

Dr. Ahmad Khasawneh from

the FAO regional office said that desert locusts in the Middle East were inert in the past month despite the ever-existing potential danger of locust invasion.

Khasawneh said despite the relative calm situation, there is an urgent need for maintaining constant control and surveillance of areas most likely to be invaded by desert locusts.

### NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**ROYAL DECREE:** A Royal Decree has been issued, endorsing the national universities law, which defines the university's objectives, financial resources and conditions of recruiting their academic and administrative cadres. (Petra)

**ARAB CHILDREN'S CONGRESS ENDS:** The week long Arab Children's Congress, held annually in Amman, concluded here Sunday with a call on families and schools to direct special attention to child education and to inculcate in him the true belonging and respect of the Arab cultures and traditions. At the end of the event, Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal presented certificates of appreciation and prizes to the participants, and special awards to those who won in the drawing competition. (Petra)

**HAYYAT CABLES SAUDI COUNTERPART:** Minister of Waqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat Sunday sent a cable to his Saudi counterpart Sheikh Abdul Wahab Abdul Vasee, thanking him and the Saudi government for the services it offers to pilgrims in general, and to Jordanian pilgrims in particular. (Petra)

**TEACHERS TO OMAN:** The Ministry of Education Sunday called on all teachers nominated for secondment to the Omani Education Ministry this year, to call at the Omani secondment and contract committee to make the necessary arrangements in preparation for the travel. (Petra)

**SOVIET STUDENTS AT GEOGRAPHIC CENTRE:** A Soviet student delegation from Tashkent University Sunday visited the Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre, where they were briefed by the centre's officials on its role in supporting the development plans through the maps and aerial photos prepared by the centre and the training of specialised technical cadres. (Petra)

**CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AT JUST:** Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) President Kamel Ajlouni Sunday issued with the visiting President of the Canada's Ottawa University, Nicholas Georgannes, scopes of cooperation between the two universities in the scientific and academic fields. The two presidents also discussed means of implementing the provisions of an agreement concluded between both universities, under which the Canadian Scientific Development Corporation will finance the \$1 million centre for research and development in the area of electric communications at JUST premises. (Petra)

**8,000 TONNES OF CEMENT EXPORTED:** The Jordan Cement Factories Company (JCFC) has exported a total of 18,000 tonnes of cement to Egypt. This shipment is part of the agreement JCFC signed with Egypt which provides for exporting 750,000 tonnes of cement. A total of 202,511 tonnes of cement have so far been exported to Egypt. (Petra)

**LECISO MEETING:** The Ministry of Education will participate in the 47th session of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALECSO) scheduled to convene in Tunis in early July. The week-long meetings will discuss ALECSO's budget, organisational structure, and future plans. (Petra)

**WORK APPLICATION OFFICE:** The Ministry of Labour has opened a work application office at the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions in Shmeisani to help unemployed Jordanians get jobs. The ministry urged establishments which have vacant posts and unemployed Jordanians to check with the office. (Petra)

**RAMTHA TRUCK TERMINAL:** The truck terminal in Ramtha is being asphalted and provided with all necessary facilities, Ramtha Mayor Fawwaz Zoubi said. He added that the 35-drum terminal will go into service next week and that trucks will no longer be allowed to enter Ramtha. "This measure will keep the city clean and prevent pollution," (Petra)

**COURSES ON CIVIL DEFENCE:** The Royal Jordanian (RJ) has decided to hold courses on civil defence for its employees to train them on means to prevent accidents. This measure is part of RJ's efforts to ensure safety in its various departments. (Petra)

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- \* An art exhibition by three Arab artists representing Bahrain, Syria and Jordan at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- \* An art exhibition entitled "Songs of the Earth" by Mohammad Nasrallah at the French Cultural Centre.
- \* An exhibition of children's books held within the framework of the Ninth Arab Children's Congress at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- \* A photography exhibition entitled "Constructed Narratives" at the British Council.
- \* An exhibition of Palestinian heritage at the Professional Associations Complex.

## Soil survey and classification project agreement signed

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — An agreement was signed here Sunday for the commencement of a soil survey and classification project in Jordan which will be financed by the European Community (EC).

Under the terms of the agreement, the EC will grant Jordan \$3.5 million to help finance the project which will be carried out

by a firm under a contract with the EC.

An agreement on the grant was signed by the EC delegate in Amman and the Jordanian government last April.

The project, according to EC officials will provide the country with a tool to protect the soil and increase food production. It entails wide agricultural pro-

duction: expansions in rain-fed regions and areas irrigated by river water alike.

The grant is part of the EC assistance programme to Jordan under the second and third protocols signed in 1982 and 1987.

The agreement Sunday was signed by Agriculture Minister Adnan Badran and the manager of the firm which will carry out the project.

## Price of imported drugs to rise by 3 to 20 per cent

AMMAN (J.T.) — The price of imported medicine will rise by three to 20 per cent depending on the cost of drugs from its original source, but there will be no increases on any of the locally produced medicine, according to Health Minister Zuhair Malhas.

The minister was quoted by the Al Raii Arabic daily as saying that the rise in the price of imported medicine hinges on the increase in the price of foreign currency exchange with which Jordan pays for imported products, but that the price of locally produced pharmaceutical products will remain the same.

Ministry of Health officials Sunday did not disclose when the new measures will go into effect. They noted in a telephone call with the Jordan Times that the increase will not affect the medicine which is already in the country, but rather new consignments to be ordered from now on.

The minister noted that the locally made medicine covers nearly 40 per cent of Jordan's

total needs of drugs, but from now on pills will come in larger containers to save the cost of smaller ones.

According to Nayef Hamarneh, director of the Health Ministry's warehouses, the drug situation in ministry clinics and health centres is excellent.

He said the ministry's stores contain sufficient amounts of medicine, and there was no reason for any new arrangements.

Hamarneh said that in the first five months of 1989 a total of five million patients were dispensed drugs at the health centres, against nearly seven million in 1987 and eight million in 1988.

He said that local pharmaceutical industries supply the warehouses with all types of medicine, especially that which is used to combat common diseases and illnesses.

He noted that the health centres continue to dispose only the necessary amounts of medicines to serve the purpose.

## Registration for expatriates conference starts Wednesday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Labour announced Sunday that registration of participants in the fifth Jordanian expatriates conference will begin Wednesday at the Al Hussein Youth City.

In a statement issued here, the ministry which organises the annual event, called on the participants to come forward and register their names as participants so as to get their badges and the conference's programme. The fifth conference, due to open on July 8, will deal with four working papers on political, economic, scientific and technological sub-

jects, as well as the implementation of resolutions of previous conferences.

Labour Minister Jamal Bdour said that the government has created a special department at the Ministry of Labour to take charge of the expatriates affairs and to oversee the implementation of the conference resolutions.

He noted in a statement last month that the government had carried out most of the resolutions of the previous conferences and will take every possible measure to ensure the success of the coming conference.



In the name of God the compassionate and the merciful  
**Heartfelt congratulations**

From Al Haj Shafiq Ismail Tillawi, father of  
**Dr. Ibrahim Shafiq Tillawi, Ibrahim's mother, brother, Mohammad, and sisters and their husbands and their sons and all members of the family to**

**Dr. Ibrahim Shafiq Tillawi**

upon his safe return home after obtaining a American board diploma in pathology from United States universities and his specialisation certificate from the Chicago Hospital.

Congratulations for the achievement and good wishes for your future services to the nation under the leadership of  
**His Majesty King Hussein.**

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



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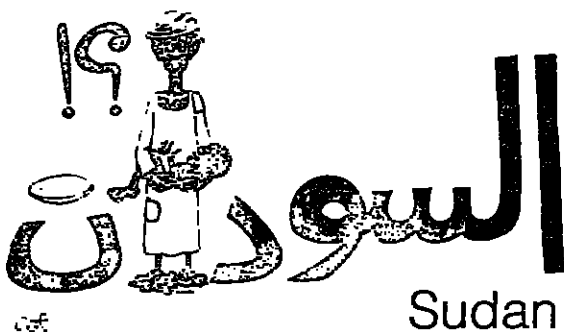
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## Try other ways

HERE we go again. The Arabs have decided once again to confront Israel's deportation of eight more Palestinians by lodging another sterile complaint to the U.N. Security Council. This "deja vu" policy has proved its impotence over and over again in the face of Israel's arrogance and contempt of international law. It would be more honourable for the Arab World to refrain from persisting in knocking at the door of the U.N. when it is known beforehand what the precedents of such a style of diplomacy are. One would have greater appreciation of the Arab U.N. complaint if the Arab parties link it with other measures or policies.

One can think of other courses of action still available to the Arab parties. Juridically speaking, a complaint can be submitted to the International Court of Justice for a starter. In addition, domestic legal remedies within Israel proper offer great opportunities to challenge the Israeli decision to relax even further its legal guidelines regarding the policy of mass deportation. If funds can be made available to the Palestinians to pursue their legal rights more vigorously and make more determined efforts to exhaust all legal remedies, including taking their cases against deportation to the highest court in Israel, the Arab World stands to reap more results than mere complaints to the U.N.

To be sure there are other avenues open for the Arab side in this vein. A more determined bilateral diplomacy at the level of the superpowers, the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and the EC, with a view to apply more effective measures against Israel in return for its unlawful, arbitrary and repressive policies against the Palestinians. To cite an example or two, the Soviet Union can be called upon to suspend its ongoing liberal policy towards Jewish immigration from its lands until Israel proves, beyond a shadow of doubt, that it adheres to international norms. Likewise the U.S. can be called upon to suspend its vast economic, financial and military cooperation with Israel until there is more respect for international law in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The other big powers and economic giants in the international community, especially the EC, have greater leverage with Israel than the U.N. The hand that feeds the Israeli mouth can extricate from it more legal and humane policies than the U.N. As things stand now, the Arabs have grown to be contemptuous of just lodging futile complaints to the U.N. and are asking for more genuine efforts to stop Israel's arrogant defiance of international judgments.



Sudan

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Daily on Sunday tackled the situation in Sudan following the recent coup that brought the military junta to head a government in Khartoum. The paper said it is natural for the coup to draw the attention of the enemies and the friends of Sudan in the Arab World, in Africa and the world at large in view of the long civil strife in the African nation and the continued turbulence over the past two decades. The paper said that Jordan and all Arab States wish the Sudanese people success in cementing the national unity and re-establishing stability and security in the south. Sudan is an Arab country and any events there can only have their repercussions within the Arab World, the paper noted. It said that what is required from the new regime now is to find peace with the South and help establish security in the whole country. Judging from the first statements emanating from Khartoum, the military regime is orientated towards peace; and, the paper said, the Arab states can only wish the Sudanese people and their new leaders success in their drive to end the bloodshed in the South and attain the long aspired peace and security.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily criticises the Arab countries for remaining passive in the face of Israel's escalating atrocities against the Palestinian people. Abdul Rahim Omar says in his Sunday column that it is surprising that the Arabs with all their natural and human potentials should not lift a finger to alleviate their Palestinian brothers from their ordeal and act with force against Israel's continued aggression on the Palestinian people. The writer refers to Israel's recent deportation of a new group of Palestinians to South Lebanon and notes that this arbitrary action was condemned strongly by the U.N. secretary general and deplored by peace loving nations. The whole world watches with disgust Yitzhak Shamir's threats against the Palestinians and deplores the deportation of civilians, but the Arabs themselves do not dare to take any action in this respect nor are they taking any action against the United States which continues to back Israel's atrocities against the Palestinian people.

Israel's deportation of eight Palestinians has been met with strong deplored from various countries of the world, said Al Dustour daily Sunday. The paper noted that the deportation of the new group of Arab people provides further evidence of Israel's oppression and criminal action against the Arab people and its total disregard to international laws. The paper commended the Arab countries' request for a U.N. Security Council meeting to discuss Israel's atrocities and said that the council meeting will be a touchstone for the true American stand, and a test for the real intentions and attitudes of the Bush administration which has already condemned the deportation.

## Sudan's coup reflects frustration of middle-ranking officers

By Hamza Hendawi  
Reuters

CAIRO — Frustration felt by Sudan's middle-ranking officers at the civilian government's failure to meet demands by the military last February appear to be a prime force behind the coup in Khartoum on Friday.

According to Arab and Western diplomats in Khartoum, the officers, ranging in rank between majors and brigadiers, were the driving force behind the ultimatum handed to Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi last February to introduce political and economic reforms and to spend more money on defence.

The diplomats said many of the 150 officers who endorsed the ultimatum thought that Mahdi had since manoeuvred so that he got away without really meeting their demands.

They blamed army chiefs for compromising with Mahdi, who had been in office since 1986, and who was seen on Friday by a Reuters correspondent being escorted towards Khartoum's main prison.

"The big generals have since been trying to restrain those officers," one diplomat told Reuters in Khartoum last week.

The first statement on state radio Omdurman announcing Friday's military takeover said: "Your armed forces were united behind its famous (February) memorandum which it raised to warn against the dangers... and to equip the troops to carry out their duties."

But the former (military) leadership failed because of its weakness to force the government to make available the minimum of the troops' requirements.

The diplomats said the officers were also angered by the arrest earlier this month of 14 fellow officers in connection with a coup plot the government said had been uncovered on June 18.

Authorities said the plotters had planned to bring back to power former president Jaafar Numeiri, ousted in a 1985 military coup and living in Egypt in exile.

The leader of Friday's coup identified himself on radio Omdurman as Brigadier Omar Hassan Al Bashir.

A statement by Bashir echoed parts of the February ultimatum when it charged that political parties had failed the people and led to Sudan's isolation internationally.

The coup leaders, according to witnesses in the Sudanese capital, have, along with Mahdi, detained

his ministers and commander-in-chief general Fathi Ahmed Ali. They imposed a nationwide state of emergency, suspended the constitution, dissolved parliament and ordered a night-time curfew.

The February ultimatum reflected the frustration at all levels in Sudan's estimated 60,000-strong army.

In the south, where it has fought a six-year-long war, the poorly-equipped and demoralised army has in recent months been consistently humiliated by rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), losing more than 12 garrison towns since the beginning of the year.

Military analysts believe neither side can win in the battlefield. Egypt's Middle East News Agency reported from Khartoum that Bashir, who now heads a

revolutionary council, was recently in command of a battalion of paratroopers in a combat tour in the south, where an earlier bout of civil war ended in 1972.

The diplomats said some army units serving in the south, where a de facto truce has been in effect since May 1, went for months with little food and ammunition. Some units had no physicians, leaving nurses to operate on the wounded.

One unit which took sanctuary in neighbouring Uganda earlier this year after SPLA guerrillas overran its positions had been kept in isolation on the outskirts of Khartoum with some of its members suffering malnutrition and psychological disorder, according to the diplomats.

Mahdi told parliament last Monday that his government had secured military aid from Arab

and West European countries, but the diplomats said most countries able to give substantial aid to the army were shying away from involvement in what they saw as an internal conflict.

Friday's coup announcement came as Khartoum, a mainly slum city of an estimated seven million people, suffered an acute shortage of bread, sugar and petrol. Hundreds of people took to the streets during the past two weeks to protest at the government's failure to make basic items available.

They chanted slogans calling for Numeiri's return and for the government to hand over power to the military if it was unable to make bread available.

The coup was the fourth since Sudan became independent in 1956 and ended the country's third spell of democratic rule.

## Mahdi battled rebels, famine, Muslim discontent

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi, overthrown by a military coup Friday, battled rebels, a deteriorating economy and discontent among Muslim militants in his three-year rule.

Mahdi, Sudan's first elected leader for 17 years, tried a mixture of force and conciliation to end the country's most pressing problem, a six-year-old civil war in the south.

He failed and Sudan suffered as a result. An estimated 250,000 southerners died of famine last year caused mainly by the fighting and millions of refugees have poured north, straining the economy of one of the world's poorest countries.

Oxford-educated Mahdi, aged 53 and descended from a 19th century messianic ruler who fought the British, faced rising discontent from Muslim militants seeking Islamic law in Sudan.

His rule over Africa's largest country looked increasingly unsteady as he announced two coup plots against him by former President Jaafar Numeiri, one in December and one last week.

In February army generals gave Mahdi an ultimatum either to give them enough money for arms to crush the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) or to negotiate peace.

Mahdi chose peace, but no accord has been reached with the SPLA, fighting to end what it sees as domination of the Christian and animist south by the Muslim and Arabised north.

Riots over food and other prices in the sprawling slum city of Khartoum forced Mahdi to back away from attempts at economic reform, leaving Western creditors unhappy and the country staggering under foreign debt of at least \$12 billion.

Inflation is running at about 80 per cent, black market trading is rife and help from international relief agencies is needed to control the famine in the south. The U.N. has said 100,000 people could starve to death this year.

Mahdi, a Muslim whose Umma Party dominated several coalition governments since April 1986 elections, has hereditary spiritual authority over almost one tenth of Sudan's 25 million people. But in the south, hundreds of

miles from Khartoum in the heart of equatorial Africa, Mahdi has seen his government's rule shrink to the outskirts of a few besieged garrison towns.

A senior Western diplomat said Mahdi was an outstanding leader, partly because of the combination of his modern education and traditional authority.

"But he has got too many ideas and he is one of those people who believe that to speak is to act," the diplomat said.

Many followers of the Ansar sect founded by his great-grandfather, the Mahdi, credit him with the same supernatural powers attributed to his ancestor.

The forces of the 19th century Mahdi killed Charles Gordon, a British general serving Egypt, in the 1885 capture of Khartoum. The Mahdists ruled Sudan until 1898.

Mahdi's Umma Party, which he has led since 1962, stands midway between the hardline National Islamic Front and the secularists of the left.

His political life has been spent trying to bridge the gap between liberal democracy and his legacy of religious loyalty.

Repeatedly jailed and exiled in a lifetime of ups and downs, he has said: "I have done everything I could for my country, to the extent that I forgot, or almost forgot, my family."

Mahdi was born on December 25, 1935, in Khartoum's twin city of Omdurman, the former Mahdist capital, and grew up in the last two decades of British imperial rule.

He had a first brief taste of power when he became prime minister in July 1966 aged 30, but political manoeuvrings brought him down 10 months later.

After General Jaafar Numeiri seized power in a 1969 coup, Mahdi was arrested in a purge of political parties. He was exiled in 1970 and detained after his return in 1972.

After further exile during which he campaigned to topple Numeiri, he returned to Sudan again and was jailed by Numeiri in 1983 for opposing Islamic law. Numeiri, who lives in exile in Egypt, was toppled by a coup in 1985.

Mahdi, a fine horseman and enthusiastic tennis player, has three sons and six daughters.

By Giles Merritt

DUBROVNIK, Yugoslavia — The international debt crisis is not what it was, but that is little cause for celebration. Through most of the 1980s, it sent shivers down the backs of Western bankers and politicians. Today, few of them worry about it, though the amount owed by 123 developing countries has soared toward a breathtaking \$1.5 trillion. Spectacular growth in the financial operations of major international banks has diluted their exposure to Third World debt. But for debtor nations, there is no relief: They are suffocating under the weight of mounting foreign debt.

"There is a net transfer of resources from the poor South to the rich North amounting to over \$30 billion every year," said Julius Nyerere, the former Tanzanian leader. He was speaking here earlier last month to bankers and politicians attending the United Nations-backed World Scientific Banking Meeting. As chairman of the South Commission, which presents Third World views, Nyerere stressed that the developing countries' problems were worse than ever.

"The countries of the South," he said, "have seen their already very low standards of living decline during the past 10 years, and for the poorest among them there is no realistic prospect of resuming the economic and social advances which they had made earlier. In all except a few countries, malnutrition is increasing as health and education provision declines. Investment is not keeping up with the demand for new jobs, and in some cases it is still negative."

For the North as much as the South, the status quo is not an option. Nyerere said — high interest rates are causing Third World indebtedness to snowball, even as development suffers. "The reality is that developed countries' exports to the South were about \$150 billion less during the three years 1984-86 than they were during the previous three years." Or, put more colourfully, "The poverty of his customers causes the poverty of the

## The bankers should still be worrying

shopkeeper."

A search for a new strategy to combine debt relief for the poorest countries and reduced exposure for the more vulnerable commercial banks began in earnest in 1985, when James Baker, then the U.S. Treasury secretary, proposed a \$30 billion plan to restructure Third World debt. But its requirement that commercial banks subscribe \$20 billion of that in new credits has proved a problem.

This spring, Nicholas Brady, the new Treasury secretary, advanced his own approach, making debt reductions its top priority. Making the "Brady initiative" a workable plan has become the focus of those concerned with the debt crisis.

One school of thought holds that dramatic write-offs are needed if the shakiest debtor countries are to return to sound

economic growth. Shafiqul Islam of the New York-based Council on Foreign Relations calculated at the Dubrovnik conference that the nine big American banks most exposed to Third World debt could and should make major write-downs.

He says that instead of the 20 per cent debt reduction favoured by Brady, a one-shot 50 per cent write-down would be sustainable and more effective. If the banks were allowed to write down their combined \$25 billion loss over five years, their aftertax profits would fall by about 15 per cent.

Debtors for attacking the debt mountain are coming at a furious pace. Unrecoverable debts are being reduced, swapped for other assets or even given away by banks as a form of development aid. But if the Brady initiative is ever to become a full-fledged plan, an essential political step is needed. The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund must be given more authority to decide which debtors are neediest, what guarantees should be given to lenders and how risk should be shared between the commercial banks and the governments of the world's rich countries. As it approaches its second decade, the debt crisis needs a mediator —

International Herald Tribune.

## China moves to restore image

By Mark O'Neill  
Reuters

PEKING — China's recall of many of its ambassadors shows Peking's desire to restore an international image shattered by the military crackdown on student-led protest, diplomats said Friday.

They said the propaganda campaign would begin in the Third World where China has considerable political and economic leverage, and could later be extended to the West once the first shock of the army killings has worn off.

China's image as a progressive nation that had thrown off the shackles of Stalinism by embarking on ambitious reforms was shattered by the slaughter of hundreds, perhaps thousands, of demonstrators in central Peking on June 4.

Television footage of the carnage, unseen by China's one billion people, provoked revulsion around the world and sanctions from the United States, Japan and the European Community.

Not all countries have boycotted China. Delegations from Pakistan, Bolivia, and Sao Tome and Principe have met China's leaders since the army crackdown.

"International reaction to our putting down the chaos in Peking has been both friendly and unfriendly," President Yang Shangkun told a delegation from the Bolivian parliament.

The People's Daily Friday quoted Yang as telling his visitors that Third World countries sympathised with and understood the action of the Chinese government in putting down subversion, as many governments would do.

"This is a distortion of the truth," said a Latin American diplomat in Peking. "Latin American countries have not said they support the actions of the Chinese government."

"It is not their policy to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, but that does not mean they support what China has done," he said.

"What head of state wants to come to China now and be photographed with Yang Shangkun?"

No head of a state in which the people have a vote," he added. A European diplomat said the recalled ambassadors would report to Peking the extent of the anti-China reaction in their countries and work out ways to improve Peking's image.

"I expect some ambassadors to be removed, possibly because of defections in their embassies, and tighter security systems to be worked out to try to stop further defections," he said.

About 20 Chinese diplomats abroad have requested political asylum in the wake of the crackdown.

The foreign ministry said it was normal for some ambassadors to return during the summer for consultations. But foreign diplomats in Peking said this year's recall was almost unprecedented in scale.

The European diplomat said China would start to repair the damage among Third World countries, to many of whom it has provided substantial aid since 1949 despite its own poverty. "These countries need material

and political support from China. Their leaders would be unwise to refuse an invitation from Peking, or accept a visit from a Chinese leader," he said.

"China aspires to be a major actor on the world stage," a second European diplomat said.

"Leaders of China, like other countries, want to be seen abroad, mixing with foreign dignitaries. They do not want to leave a vacuum that could be exploited by Taiwan," he said.

The image-repairing has begun in a modest way, with a foreign ministry invitation to embassies in Peking to attend a watermelon festival Saturday.

Peking television has showed pictures of the festival, with schoolchildren presenting giant melons to steel-helmeted soldiers who are enforcing martial law in the capital.

But the foreign ministry's move may not succeed.

At least three West European embassies said they would not send anyone. One said the notice was too short, another that it was not interested in going.

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# The world turns away the boat people

By Henry Kamm

GENEVA — Ten years ago, the world's leading nations met in Geneva to open the doors of asylum for the flow of boat people from Vietnam. This month, a second meeting was held because these nations now think the exodus has gone on for too long, and they want to close the gates.

While applauding the easing of restrictions that the Soviet Union and its allies impose on their citizens' travel, Western governments have called on Vietnam to keep its people from leaving.

The world has clearly had its fill of Indochinese refugees. Fifty nations said it was "imperative" that Vietnam institute "humane measures" to keep its citizens from leaving without permission.

This demand occupied first place, under the heading "clandestine departure," in a plan that the United Nations conference adopted unanimously, Vietnam concurring.

As for what should become of the Vietnamese who do leave, the European countries, Japan and Australia contend that they should be repatriated; the United States argues that they should be held in detention camps until a solution is found.

Although the meeting June 13 and 14 bore the highest mark of



The new wave: Vietnamese refugees in a detention centre in Hong Kong.

United Nations sponsorship, having been opened by Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, neither the eight-point plan it produced nor any of the many speakers drew attention to the fact that the term "clandestine departures" denotes a violation of the basic United Nations principles.

Those principles, outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, state that people

should be free to leave their country and apply for asylum in a country of their choosing. If Vietnam honoured this principle, no departure would need to be clandestine.

An exodus of Vietnamese from all social strata has reached its highest level since the peak in 1979, when the government compelled tens of thousands of ethnic Chinese to leave "illegally" and pay heavily for their passage

without destination. What was viewed in the late 1970s as a temporary exodus is now perceived as an endless flow, like that from European Communist countries. But unlike those countries, Vietnam, with its long coast, does not have the means and organisation to close its borders. This has made the flow of boat people much heavier than that which for years has trickled out of the Soviet Bloc.

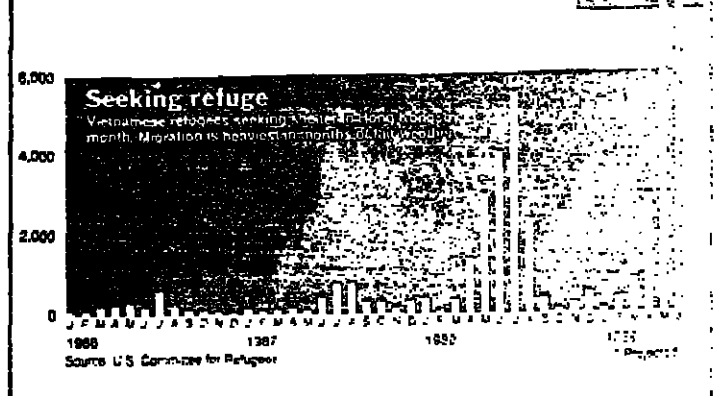
An impetus for the West's changed stance was acceptance of the contention by asylum governments that the refugees are seeking greener pastures rather than escape from persecution.

Another poverty The material poverty of Vietnam is a factor, but Vietnam has always been poor. What has changed is that under Communism many Vietnamese have abandoned hope for improvement of a life that is impoverished in many more spheres — political, social, educational and religious.

As a consequence, they are ready to risk the South China Sea in unseaworthy boats. A word-of-mouth network keeps those in Vietnam aware of the pirate attacks and hostile reception they face if they are lucky enough to reach shore in Hong Kong, Malaysia or Thailand. They also hear about the shrinking chances of being accepted by the United States, Canada, Australia or France, the principal countries of asylum.

The fact that the exodus from Vietnam continues despite these high risks has led many refugee officials and leaders of private aid organisations to conclude that simple economic hardship is not the main cause of the migration. Vietnamese also note that theirs has not been a nation of migrants, despite a long history of war and poverty. The post-1975 exodus is the first of its kind.

Rising impatience with this unending stream has brought about a reversal in attitude in Hong Kong, the one port of first asylum that over the years had enabled the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to hold it up as an example of humanitarianism. Since last year, Hong Kong has stopped freely admitting boat



people and has started placing them in prison-like detention camps, subjecting them to such critical screening that in the last 10 months only 3 of 1,327 requests for refugee status were granted.

At the conference in Geneva, Britain led a movement for forced repatriation of Vietnamese who fail to qualify in such screening, starting no later than October. Many delegates and official observers expressed fear that the countries on the shores of the South China Sea would follow Britain's lead. Only the United States, the Soviet Union and Vietnam spoke against forced repatriation.

Britain points out that the vast majority of Hong Kong refugees come from North Vietnam and stand virtually no chance of

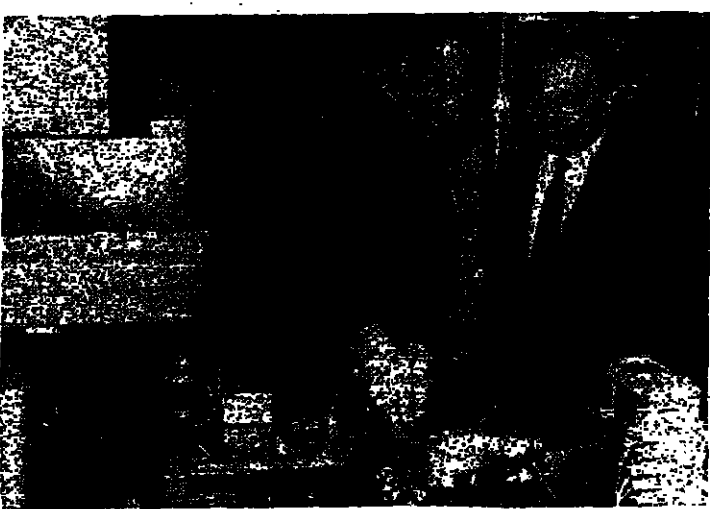
acceptance by the United States, which takes most of the boat people who are rescued. Britain argues that to hold them indefinitely in camps is more cruel than to repatriate them.

Refugee officials noted that the conference virtually agreed the problems that boat people face. Most ships continue to follow the rules of the sea, missing refugees boats in distress, but the speeches were not the plan that was adopted, touched on by the piracy that continues off the coast of Thailand and Myanmar. It was also noted that the boats were the fact that in these countries, among others, boat passengers are pushed into the hands of the sea.

## The 'Factory with a Future' also needs People

HANOVER (INP) — At the Hanover Industrial Fair, the chairman of the Board of the Rationalisation Curatorium of German Industry, Arno Mock, said "The dangers of the future do not lie in technological progress itself but in the inability to use and make understandable technological progress as a chance for mankind". A large government delegation from Moscow was also present to examine new possibilities in the field of automation, something which is just beginning in the Soviet Union.

The "Factory with a future" was presented (not the factory of the future) as Karl-Heinz Kontny, divisional head of the Deutsche Messe AG pointed out. "Our aim is after all, not the introduction of an absolutely automatic factory" Herr Kontny said. Human components are essential if the CIM system (computer-integrated manufacturing) is to be successful. The magic formula CIM stands for a production method which facilitates the "targeted" production of goods. Only as many goods as the customer ordered are produced. In this way, for instance, there is no need for a large stock of goods,



The regional premier of Baden-Württemberg, Lothar Späth (right), has research exhibits from south-west German universities — explained the "factory with a future" — at the Hanover Industrial Fair. This "flexible assembly automation" was presented by the Fraunhofer-Institut in Stuttgart.

something which is extremely cost-intensive. Furthermore, if the market situation changes, then it is possible to react to this more quickly.

Professor Hans-Jürgen Warnecke from the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology

in Stuttgart is also convinced that the "factory with a future" will not be devoid of people. There will of course be an incisive structural change in production, however, even a highly automated factory will not be able to operate without qualified technicians and workers.

With respect to the forthcoming European internal market as from 1993, experts felt that a company could only secure its future "providing that it produces better and faster than its competitors".

For this reason, intensive efforts in order to arrive at the required standardisations between producers both on a national as well as an international basis are being pursued vis-à-vis the CIM system. CIM is an "individual system," which cannot be purchased ready-made. In the plant itself, it can only be realised gradually in conjunction with suppliers. The "factory with a future" must on no account become a vision of horror with only robots in production halls devoid of people.

The CIM concept has so far only been realised in a number of factories in the USA and in the Federal Republic of Germany, for instance, at the Siemens electronics concern, where computer-aided construction and the use of robots have been introduced. German car-makers are also gaining new experience with the concept.

## Infidelity — it's all in the genes

By Gisela Boschmann

DON'T blame the husband for running off with the woman next door or the bored wife who enjoys a romantic affair on the side — their genes made them do it, claims Professor Dr. Heinz Meyer, an Aachen psychologist.

The genetic makeup of men and women drives them to transgress marital vows and feelings of guilt are inappropriate. The question to be asked is, "What makes them do it?" said Meyer, who carries out research at Aachen Technical High School.

Using empirical methods, the professor has examined the anthropological, historical, emotional and biological aspects of infidelity. He plans to publish his findings in book form in the near future.

Meyer disputes the widely held view that most marriages and relationships are held together by sex. He believes it is this very aspect which undermines human pairing.

It can be traced back to a kind of "constitutional defect" in human beings, as Meyer puts it, related to man's disposition to be either monogamous or polygamous.

The professor distinguishes between monotrope people who are limited in their desires and polytropes who are varied and adaptable when it comes to relationships.

During the initial phase of being in love the monogamous aspect dominates along with the desire to be the sole possessor of the partner, said the professor. However, a period of disillusionment soon follows and with it the "readiness" to "respond" to a new male or female partner,



Meyer added.

Only a few couples experience this change simultaneously, and a common result is that the cheated partner often reacts to unfaithfulness with jealousy that can have fatal consequences.

Even if both sides have agreed to be tolerant, this seldom helps, says Meyer, who pointed out that jealousy is equally rare in polygamous societies.

Partner problems lead to suffering, but man doesn't die as a result of them, "He even multiplies and passes on his contradictory dispositions, monogamous, polygamous and even promiscuous, to the next generation," said Meyer.

late in the evolutionary process and can only exert a limited influence on a genetic tendency to enter into affairs with fresh partners, he argued.

"Most individuals do not remain monogamous for their entire lives," notes Meyer, who advises against long-term relationships founded solely sexual attraction.

It is better to laugh at the world, said the professor.

In any case, the influence on the side doesn't last very long and it is "not directed against the primary relationship," he points out — *REPORT* *culture*.

## Wary residents await outcome of nuclear plant probe

By Sandy Shore  
The Associated Press

DENVER — Residents of Denver's northern suburbs are co-existing a little more uneasily with rocky flats nuclear weapons plant these days, but say an investigation at the facility isn't cause for hysteria.

"We're all concerned, naturally," said Omar Joseph, who has lived and worked in Arvada for 23 years. "What are you going to do? As a citizen you just hold your breath and hope for the best."

The investigation was made public June 6 when 75 FBI and Environmental Protection Agency agents raided the plant 16 miles northwest of Denver. Authorities have said it will take at least six months to analyse the evidence from the two-week search.

An court affidavit alleges hazardous wastes were burned

illegally in a plant incinerator and dumped late last year into creeks feeding into water supplies for Broomfield, Westminster, Thornton and Northglenn.

The investigation is the latest in a series of problems within the U.S. nuclear weapons complex, which includes 16 major facilities in 12 states. Some of key facilities are closed down for repairs and improvements.

The problems have included use of illegal drugs at the Los Alamos national laboratory in New Mexico, the Hanford nuclear reservation in Washington state, and the Oak Ridge Y-12 plant in Tennessee; inadequate fire protection at the Savannah River site in South Carolina, a radioactive gas used to make warheads; and poor training of safety inspectors at Hanford and Savannah River.

A group of 16 anti-nuclear and peace organisations has demanded that Colorado Gov. Roy Romer close the rocky flats plant. Other groups supported Romer's successful effort to give the state authority to more strictly monitor the plant, which is under federal contract and managed by Rockwell International Corp.

The probe has had little visible effect on day-to-day life in the nearby suburbs of Broomfield, Westminster and Arvada, where 155,000 of metropolitan Denver's roughly 1.6 million residents live.

But people in those suburbs are concerned, particularly about safe water. Sales of bottled and distilled water systems are up.

"I think there's a group that certainly is concerned about the overall environmental safety, taking a wait-and-see attitude to see what the investigation will produce," said Westminster city manager Bill Christopher.

"There also is a silent element that is not expressing concern. There also is a very small vociferous group that is demanding the closure of the plant, and we've heard from those people for the last few years."

Established in the early 1950s, the plant — a large complex of buildings on a site covering 28.5 square kilometres — makes triggers for nuclear weapons. It has been a source of controversy for two decades.

Whenever public safety concerns surfaced, the federal government reassured the public that the facility posed no health threat. A wave of concern erupted in 1957, when a fire and explosion in a plutonium-reprocessing building released an undetermined amount of plutonium into the atmosphere; and again in 1969 when a fire caused about \$70 million in damage.

In the 1970s, then-Jefferson county health director Dr. Carl Johnson began studies of the plant's impact. He later published papers in which he calmed the cancer rate among nearby residents shot up in the 1960s and 1970s.

About 5,000 people work at the plant, and many live in the nearby towns, which recently have taken steps to attract business and industry to diversify their economies.

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NEW JTV CHANNEL 2 CYCLE: Jordan Television will start showing three new mini-series with the new cycle. The first one, on Monday at 9:10, will be a six-hour production of the classic novel *Around the World in 80 Days* by Jules Verne. It is about a 19th century aristocrat's attempt to win a bet that he can circle the globe in 80 days. The second that he can circle the globe in 80 days. The second that he can circle the globe in 80 days. The third mini-series, family starring Twiggy, as the famous comedian's mother, and Ian McShane as Charlie Snr. The third mini-series, the Dark Angel, on Wednesday at 10:20, is based on the romantic gothic thriller *Uncle Silas* by Sheridan le Fanu. It is a classic confrontation between innocence and corruption set against a backdrop of decay amid the Victorian landed gentry. The new programme also includes part two of the TV series *Gentlemen and Players*, on Monday at 10:20. The photo above shows Lynn Farleigh in a scene from the second part of the World War II series *Wish Me Luck*, on Tuesday at 10:20, which is about women spies operating behind enemy lines in war-torn France.

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# Help stop damaging rumours

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

THE FIRST reaction to the "consumer behaviour article" which was published last week came from the boss. When it was submitted, the editor-in-chief expressed reservations over the comparison of Jordanian and Western social values in terms of extravagance. Dr. Sadi pointed out that, contrary to popular belief, Westerners' life-style is characterised by simplicity and sufficiency — traits, which if properly copied, could be a proper example for our countrymen. Despite his comment, he approved the article unchanged knowing that the description was based on "the general belief" wrongly derived from numerous sources.

The second comment came from a colleague who repeatedly urged that the article be published on page four as it was an opinion piece. Jordan Times' readers should know that the remark only complicated things for the boss with regard to page priorities on economic issues... at a time when Dr. Sadi is highlighting the local angle of the economy page despite technical constraints.

Well, what about the scandal?

It is not in this paragraph, and maybe those who are craving to know about it should skip to another paragraph, because something more important should be said first.

You see, it all depends on how one talks about a subject. Talk it up, and it's up. Talk it down, it's down. The 1987 Wall Street crash and, later, the market's recovery is a clear demonstration of how the behaviour of the public, dealers, managers of funds, and government officials can affect a particular situation.

In Jordan, the above philosophy regrettably is not valid. What should be highlighted or talked up is usually considered propaganda, while other negative news that needs to be buried gets the limelight in "underground stages."

I don't want to keep those awaiting to hear about the scandal jumping from one pa-

graph to another, because some might race to the end of the article or simply come to believe that there is no scandal. Fullstop.

A couple of letters or telephone calls to the responsible authorities could have put things straight, but "honest, religious, anti-corruption nationalists" decided that hanging out dirty laundry is a better way of gaining cleanliness — probably thinking they can be spared an indiscriminate washing.

These "sincere, guilt-laden and helpless" creatures undoubtedly sought to become heroes, saviours or saints by leaking information about a prominent and well-established Jordanian company claiming financial irregularities, mismanagement and more.

The "heroes" who are either extremely smart or extremely idiotic, try to portray their organisation as a cell of thieves. They apparently believe that

Jordanian businesses are, or should be, immune to international window-dressing accounting, insider trading activities, takeovers and acquisitions, mergers, hostile bids, and guaranteed reciprocity, in addition to commissioning, reselling and other trading aspects.

I am not defending the company. However, regardless of whether they are being labelled scapegoats or are not being offered a piece of the pie anymore, employees and partners have a moral obligation and an ethical loyalty not to try to bring down any entity on pretexts of godliness or purification.

Is it sane to try to undermine a national symbol, at the slightest employees' disgruntledness with the management, by leaking confidential information to the public. Can anyone imagine that taking place worldwide?

Opportunists, profit-takers, corporate raiders and tycoons

are everywhere and no law can restrict their activities. On the other hand, national interest should not be tampered with irresponsibly by "junior managers" who gamble in a very risk game.

The government is inviting public trust and the public should not fail to cooperate, through proper channels, with its drive. Otherwise, nothing less than an economic crime by traitors dressed in robes of innocence may result.

I started with "immediate reactions" to last week's consumer behaviour article, and I think I should end this subject on the same note.

Of the entire article, one reader was interested only in one paragraph. No one would believe that he was inquiring whether it is true that one dinar will this year be equal to \$1. Another reader reached a conclusion that I am very optimistic.

What can I say?

## 'Ban on ivory trade unlikely to succeed'

NAIROBI (R) — A proposed ban on the worldwide trade of ivory is unlikely to succeed because international investment in the business is too big, according to a U.N. report.

In an effort to stamp out the poaching of elephants for their tusks, Kenya and Tanzania, with apparent backing from Somalia and Zaire, have asked the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) to outlaw the ivory trade.

They have won support from the United States and the European Community.

But a ban is opposed by southern African countries like Zimbabwe, South Africa and Botswana which have waged far more effective anti-poaching campaigns than east and west African states, and periodically need to cull their elephant herds.

The report by the Nairobi-based U.N. Environment Programme (UNEP) noted that CITES, at the request of African states, implemented a system in January 1986 under which they would establish annual quotas for legal exports of ivory.

An elaborate system of controls was designed to monitor and record legitimate trade, and advise countries that imported ivory and which were parties to CITES whether shipments they expected were legal or not.

The UNEP report said it was too early to judge the effectiveness of the quota system, under which leading trading centres like Hong Kong and Belgium, and Japan to a lesser extent, accede to CITES controls.

Yet, it added: "The alternative — a complete ban on the ivory trade — is unlikely ever to be

successful because world-wide investment in the ivory business is too large."

The system of controls was strengthened in 1986 with the enactment of CITES legislation by Hong Kong's neighbour, Macao, and accession to CITES of Singapore, effectively closing these previously important staging posts for illegal imports.

However, according to a report submitted to CITES in 1987 by the African Elephant and Rhino Specialist Group, legal ivory exports accounted for only 22 per cent of the number of elephants thought to have been killed.

"A further 150,000 tusks, in other words, must have entered the trade illegally," the UNEP report said.

It said the quota system was far from effective yet because many African countries had little idea of the size of their elephant populations and could not set realistic and sustainable quotas.

But there was no reason to despair of the system, which was starting to produce a two-tier market with legally exported ivory commanding much higher prices than smuggled shipments, it said.

"Eventually this must help persuade poachers that their trade will become less easy and less profitable," it added.

If the quota system was to become really effective in reducing illegal trade, action would also have to be taken in regard to worked ivory, the report said.

Many countries had no legislation on imports of worked ivory in the same way they did for raw ivory and CITES controls on the former were less strict than those for the latter, it noted.

## Faxes duplicate Japanese electronics success story

TOKYO (AP) — Facsimile machines, once expensive, snail-paced curiosities, have become standard equipment in offices worldwide — and a source of profits for Japanese electronics companies.

They've even played a political role — during democracy protests in Beijing, Chinese students in the United States used fax machines to bypass censorship and send information to China.

Although fax — short for facsimile — machines were invented in the West, Japanese companies perfected and popularised them.

More than 20 Japanese companies now produce almost all the world's fax machines, a market estimated at \$3.5 billion a year. U.S. companies that once made them have been reduced to putting their name on equipment manufactured in Japan.

The Kanji, Chinese characters used to write Japanese, make it difficult for Japanese to use the telexes that U.S. and European businesses relied on to send documents quickly between offices. Japanese companies snapped up faxes, which produce a copy of a document, and Japanese manufacturers perfected technology to meet their needs.

"The fax took off like wildfire in Japan," said Darrel Whitten, electronics analyst at Prudential Bache Securities. "It was a god-send for sending Kanji by phone lines for Japan's vast trading

house networks."

"Japanese firms have a real cost advantage," says Whitten, pointing out it's probably too late for Western companies to try to catch up by investing in research or production at this point.

Japan's domination of the market reportedly spared faxes from inclusion this spring in a list of Japanese products considered by Washington for punitive tariffs in response to alleged restrictive trading practices.

With the world market open to them, Japanese fax makers are waging a fierce battle among themselves for rapidly increasing sales. That has brought down fax prices and speeded the introduction of sophisticated features into lower-priced models, says Satoshi Aoki of Ricoh Co., which shares the market lead with Matsushita Graphic Communications.

The domestic competition, which results in a seemingly orchestrated onslaught overseas of Japanese companies armed with slashed prices, heavy advertising and a flurry of new product, recalls the way Japan came to dominate markets for such productions as transistor radios and videotape recorders.

Ten years ago, U.S.-made fax machines took up to six minutes to transmit a page. Technological advances have reduced transmission time to as little as three seconds and the price for basic models to as low as \$500.

At those prices and speeds, a fax message often costs less than a letter, even sent to another country, and much less than overnight delivery service.

"We've virtually stopped sending letters and use the fax instead," said Nobue Hoshi, a secretary at a radio production company. "It's cheaper and much faster than a letter."

Toshikazu Hori of Matsushita says Japan's lead in image sensor technology so far has kept out competition from Asia's newly industrialised economies — South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore.

"But we've had many Korean and Taiwanese visiting Matsushita in the past year studying our production process," he said.

Analysts expect one and possibly both countries to enter the market later this year.

That would intensify competition in the fastest-growing market segment — moderate-priced machines for smaller businesses.

About 22 per cent of Japan's 5.7 million small businesses and stores with less than 10 employees now have faxes, and the rate is forecast to reach about 60 per cent in three years, Hori says.

Japan expects to produce 4.2 million fax machines this year, up 23 per cent from last year. Of that, about 1.2 million will be sold in Japan, and a similar amount in both North America and Europe.

## JEA moves to find jobs for Jordanian engineers

AMMAN (Petra) — In its endeavours to find job opportunities for Jordanian engineers in the Gulf states, the Jordan Engineers Association (JEA) has embarked on contacts with chambers of industry and trade in the Arab Gulf countries after receiving the trade directory which contains names, addresses and telephone numbers of companies and firms in the various Gulf countries.

In an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, JEA President Laith Shbeilat said that the association has prepared computerised lists of the names and addresses of these companies and firms. Shbeilat added that the association has addressed the foreign minister, requesting him to ask all Jordanian embassies in the Gulf to contact the chambers of commerce and industry directly with a view to exploring their actual needs of Jordanian engineers in the various specialisations.

Shbeilat pointed out that the JEA has contacted more than 5,000 industrial and contracting companies and has received letters from them asking for Jordanian engineering experiences.

However, the association refers all engineering applications for work to a special committee, which studies them before forwarding to the companies or firms concerned.

## Fiat expects strong 1989 sales, profits

TURIN, Italy (R) — Italian industrial giant Fiat SPA has said sales surged 21 per cent in the first quarter of this year and the group expected to show strong profit growth for the full year.

Italy's largest private industrial group announced at its annual shareholders' meeting that sales rose to 17.2 trillion lire (\$12.3 billion) in the first quarter.

Chairman Giovanni Agnelli said Fiat's turnover this year is expected to rise 17 per cent to around 52 trillion lire (\$37.1 billion), while operating profit is estimated to rise to 4.5 trillion lire (\$3.2 billion) from 3.8 trillion lire (\$2.7 billion) in 1988.

Agnelli said the company continues to look for expansion opportunities ahead of the unified European market in 1992 but repeatedly denied speculation that the Italian group wanted to acquire an interest in West Germany's Daimler Benz.

"The cornerstone of our international strategy is the strengthening of our presence in Europe," he said, but added that "none of the large-scale Euro-

pean car makers have any intention of selling out now."

"The European car business is going well. When everybody makes money, no one thinks of the difficulties down the road," he said.

Fiat said its car unit Fiat Auto boosted its share in the European car market to 15.5 per cent at the end of the first quarter, up from 14.9 per cent in the comparable 1988 quarter.

The market share gives it a narrow edge over competitor Volkswagen A.G. Fiat is aiming to sell around 2.3 million cars this year, up from 2.2 million in 1988.

Shareholders also approved Fiat's previously announced plan to repurchase up to 100 million of its shares on the open market. "Fiat has a lot of cash, and I believe buying back our shares is good business," Agnelli said.

Agnelli did not exclude that the company could use the repurchased shares as part of an alliance with another industrial firm, but said there were no current plans to do so.

## Saudi bank doubles profits in six months

NICOSIA (R) — The United Saudi Commercial Bank (USCB) showed continued strong profits in the first half of the year after ending a string of bad results last

year, a bank statement has said. In the first six months of 1989, USCB made 40.58 million riyals (\$10.82 million) compared with a net loss of 1.37 million riyals (\$365,382) in the same period last year.

Cost-cutting measures last year allowed the bank to make a net profit of 20.7 million riyals (\$5.1 million) on the whole of 1988, its first profit in four years. The measures included cutting staff to 318 from 435.

The unaudited results, showed a 270 per cent rise in net profit before provisions to 55.58 million riyals (\$14.82 million) in the first half from 15.02 million riyals (\$4 million) in the first six months of 1988.

Total assets remained relatively unchanged around 4.6 billion riyals (\$1.2 billion) while provisions were cut to 15 million riyals (\$4 million) from 16.4 million riyals (\$4.37 million).

## Lower-spending Libyans cut Tunisian tourism revenues

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia's tourism revenue fell nearly 9.5 per cent in the first five months of 1989 as visitors from Libya spent less than they did last year after the border reopened.

Tourism is Tunisia's largest single source of foreign exchange. It earned 229 million dinars (\$235 million) compared with 253 million (\$290 million) in the same period of 1988, the National Tourism Office has said.

The number of Libyan visitors fell slightly to 252,000 from 265,000 last year but main reason behind the lower earnings was that the average Libyan spent 200 dinars (\$205) this year compared with 340 dinars (\$390) in 1988, it added.

Many Libyans crossed the border for short periods to buy consumer goods for resale in Libya. Tunisia used the Libyan dinars to travel to Libya and buy subsidised foodstuffs.

National Tourism Office Director-General Mahjoub Guerfali told a news conference that he expected the high summer season to be less profitable for Tunisia than 1988 because of this Libyan factor.

Hard currency receipts from non-Libyans would probably rise 10 to 15 per cent in 1989 compared with 1988, he added.

This would leave total tourism earnings for the year at between 930 and 970 million dinars (\$954 and \$995 million), against 1,080 billion (\$1,240 billion) in 1988.

Tunisia's other major foreign exchange sources are workers' remittances and exports of textiles and petroleum. Tourism accounted for about one quarter of foreign revenue last year.

## Nigerian farming slows

LAGOS (R) — The soil in Nigeria, black Africa's biggest and most populous state, is wearing out and the country's ability to feed itself is fading with it.

"Soils are fragile and poor... and compared to the amount of potentially arable land, Nigeria is already the most densely populated country in west and central Africa," said Lawrence Stifel, head of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture.

So Nigeria — which used to export food — has run short. Near Enugu in eastern Nigeria, farmers pointed out farm land which they said yielded reasonable incomes a decade ago. Now they barely support subsistence farming.

"The soil here is very poor and without the use of fertilisers, which are very expensive, we can hardly grow enough cassava (plant, from which bread is made) to feed our families, let alone sell," said Ugwu Eze.

"Long gone are the days when a chief (local ruler) could find available land for new families," Eze said, despite Nigeria's area of about 924,000 square kilometres. But one in four Africans are Nigerian and as more people try to squeeze a wage from the over-used land, yields fall further.

Nearly all Nigerian farmers are smallholders who use manual tools to work holdings of two to 20 hectares (five to 50 acres).

So the government is trying to slow population growth by encouraging families to limit themselves to four children, against the average of six or seven.

But there is cultural and religious resistance to birth control in a country where children are viewed as blessings and a form of social security in old age.

Even if population growth is controlled, Nigeria will still need more food to make up for existing shortages.

With oil revenue down and a foreign debt of \$30 billion, government officials said Nigeria cannot afford to import its way out of food production problems. Imports of a number of grains — including wheat, rice and maize — have been banned to conserve hard currency.

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### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Sunday, July 2, 1989		Buy		Sell	
Central Bank official rates					
U.S. dollar	565.0	571.0			
French franc	878.6	887.4			
Swiss franc	289.6	292.5			
Japanese yen (for 100)			337.3	340.7	
Dutch guilder			83.2	86.1	
Swedish crown			236.9	239.5	
Italian lira (for 100)			81.1	84.0	
Belgian franc (for 10)			40.0	40.4	
			138.4	140.0	



## Aouita, Cram clash but only with words

SLO (R) — Said Aouita and Steve Cram, scheduled to run a series of races this year, clashed at the track Saturday in a bizarre set of words at the Bissett games and PRIX athletics meeting.

Aouita of Morocco was to have met Yves Ondieki, the Kenyan, who handed him his first defeat in 10 years at 5,000 metres in the final straight when he could not muster a reply to Bile's nishing kick.

But Friday, Aouita claimed he had not wanted to run the 5,000 m at all but instead wished to meet yam and Somali Abdi Bile in the Dream Mile.

Cram objected to the late entry and at midnight Friday an unsatisfactory compromise was reached when Aouita was put in the 3,000 metres, thereby meeting neither Ondieki nor Cram.

Aouita raced away with the 3,000 but Cram's bid for a fifth successive dream mile victory ended in the final straight when he could not muster a reply to Bile's nishing kick.

In Aouita's absence, Ondieki won the 5,000 in the year's fastest time on world record schedule only to find no-one to keep up with him over the final laps.

Aouita and Cram later had a lullaby to say about an incident which, as Cram pointed out, must have been a severe disappointment to fans anticipating an Aouita-Ondieki rematch.

Aouita said reports that he had been anxious to meet Ondieki were false.

"I never said that," he said. "I did come here to run the Mile. Maybe someone in the Mile didn't want to run with me."

Cram, who finished fourth, said he had had a long conversation with Aouita after his loss in Seville.

"He said he was determined to run the 5,000 here and he wanted to get revenge on Ondieki etc. etc. etc." Cram said.

The Briton said he had arrived in Oslo to be told Aouita wanted to switch to the Mile.

"I wasn't happy," he said. "I have nothing against Said Aouita and I have said that 100 times and I hope we will race this year."

"I just don't like the manner in which these things happen. These athletes have a responsibility to make up their minds and stick to it. I think he just didn't want to run the 5,000 because of the shape Ondieki's in."

Even if the Cram-Aouita series comes off there is little chance of a repeat of such epic races as their nice 1,500 clash four years ago, when the pair became the first men to break the three minute 30 seconds barrier.

The passage of time and injuries have taken their toll and between them the only medal they won last year was the Moroccan's 800 bronze.

Time is also on the march for Carl Lewis, whose 28th birthday celebrations Saturday were marred by an unwelcome defeat by fellow-American Calvin Smith.

Smith, the Olympic bronze medalist, upset the Seoul champion in the 100 metres, a result both men dismissed as unimportant.

But just two places behind Lewis was the man who seems destined to take over as the world's top sprinter-long jumper.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

**U.S. BEATS USSR AT VOLLEYBALL:** The United States swept the Soviet Union 15-9, 15-9, 15-5 Saturday night in Inglewood, California to win the championship volleyball match of the USA Cup. Brazil beat South Korea 15-9, 13-15, 15-6, 15-12 to claim third place. It was the sixth straight year the United States has won the tournament, the last four of which have been against the Soviets. The competition was the last for Karch Kiraly and Steve Timmons, who guided the U.S. team from obscurity to gold medals in consecutive Olympics. Both are retiring to pursue other interests, including professional beach volleyball. Timmons was named USA Cup most valuable player for the third time. (AP)

### BELGIAN GRAND PRIX RESULTS:

1. Hans Spaan (Netherlands) Honda 38 minutes 38.49 seconds
  2. Ezio Gianola (Italy) Honda 38:50.89
  3. Hisashi Nemetoto (Japan) Honda 39:16.80
  4. Julian Miralles (Spain) Derbi 39:27.69
  5. Lucio Pietroniro (Belgium) Honda 39:36.41
  6. Stefan Prein (West Germany) Honda 39:40.00
  7. Fausto Gresini (Italy) Aprilia 39:40.35
  8. Adolf Stadler (West Germany) Honda 39:41.15
  9. Koji Takada (Japan) Honda 39:41.51
  10. Thierry Feuz (Switzerland) Honda 39:42.10
- Fastest lap: Spaan 2:55.74 (142.165 kph). (R)

**DA SILVA TAKES TOUR DE FRANCE LEAD:** Acacio Da Silva of Portugal won the first stage of the Tour De France cycle race in Luxembourg Sunday to take the race leader's yellow jersey after a breakaway by three riders. Da Silva, a Luxembourg resident, won the 135.5-km stage, which started and finished in the capital, in a time of three hours 21 minutes 36 seconds. The Portuguese broke free alongside Soren Lilholt of Denmark and Roland Le Clerc of France, building a lead over the pack of 11 minutes 25 seconds at one point. Da Silva dropped first Le Clerc and then Lilholt on the steep climb into the city just before the finish, to race home on his own. Lilholt was second, seven seconds behind in unofficial timings, and Le Clerc third, a provisional one minute 40 seconds down. The pack reduced the arrears to four minutes 39 seconds by the end. Da Silva, who won a stage in each of the last two Tours De France, took over the race lead from prologue winner Eric Breukink of the Netherlands. He did the same thing to Breukink earlier this year in the tour of Italy, where he wore the leader's pink jersey for two days. (R)

**ENGLISH F.A. CUP UP FOR SALE:** The English Football Association (F.A.) cup, World soccer's oldest competition, was put up for sale in London Saturday — to a sponsor prepared to offer £25 million (\$38.7 million). The F.A. seek British sport's biggest sponsorship to help fund major improvements of league grounds in the wake of last April's Hillsborough disaster which cost the lives of 95 spectators. The F.A. want £2 million (\$3.1 million) a year over five years for the competition, which began in 1871, as well as an interest-free loan of £15 million (\$23.2 million). "We want something to attract the attention of everybody and win support of the F.A. council," F.A. chief executive Graham Kelly said on Saturday. "That would result in improvements being made to grounds, providing the nucleus of all-seater stadia and enabling us to stage major international events like European championship finals and world cups." (R)

### FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JULY 3, 1989

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Stellar influences accent home activities and partnerships. Strain can occur over finances and how household money should be displayed. There is a tendency to procrastinate.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Apple polishing will work better than arm twisting in solving today's problems. Focus on short trips and exploring new horizons.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Watch financial strains. A money dilemma is improving. Time spent at home is rewarding. Renew a relationship that has grown cold.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** You are ready for any commitment that comes along. An optimistic attitude makes the day shine. A wild spending mood calls for self-control.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** Home Sweet Home — and you are at your happiest. Surround yourself with family and friends and enjoy a festive meal.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 23)** Now is the time to take a step forward. Plans should be based on a firm foundation. Creativity blossoms and further ideas can be expected.

**VIRGO (Aug. 24 to Sept. 22)** Two heads are better than one, unless you disagree. An all or nothing situation develops. It is beneficial to be conciliatory — bend a little!

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Express yourself freely and display a pioneering spirit. Your popularity continues and friends are plentiful. Hold fast to your principles.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Opposition to a plan makes matters seem impossible. If you can't fight them — join them. A romantic mood can change everything.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** A new approach to finances develops. Take pride in your accomplishments. Eliminate situations that do not serve a purpose.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Competition comes from forced and aggressive individuals. Develop intuitive powers and a sense of creative purpose.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** You prefer personal isolation and withdrawal. Increase your rapport with and empathy towards others. Find time for creative projects.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Use your imagination to inspire and promote financial transactions. Money comes through a secret source. Avoid extravagance.

### THE Daily Crossword by Judson G. Trent

ACROSS

1. Reconciliation
6. Way off
10. Barn's river
13. Gypsy card
14. Dotted with stars
15. Hair style
16. Baldedash
17. Myth type
18. Set type
19. Engaged in spying
21. Peary's discovery
22. Saarinen
23. Loved
24. Frontal
28. Express
31. Eight prof.
32. Container
34. Harsh treatment
36. Superior skill
40. Cole or Wood
42. Clever
43. Chaplin's friend
45. Sheen figure
46. \$1,000
48. Part of a sum
50. So furious
53. Italia's capital
55. A Logan
56. Dominate
57. When I was
58. Barrett or Jaffe
64. Lord or vessel
65. They hit
66. Coup d'
67. Temnyon form
68. Vane dir.
69. Reunite
70. Credit

DOWN

1. Aesthetism
2. Cautious
3. Dull
4. Handle
5. Sound system
7. Fur trader
7. Ardor in
8. Nice date?
9. Be sorry
10. Stage part
11. An Aetna
12. Lassoed
13. Advantage
14. Pamphlet
15. Part of a 3-piece suit
16. Myth type
17. Like - of
18. Bricks
19. Neighbors
20. NEA work
21. grows in
22. (Civic)
23. Mickey
24. off
25. (jumbled)
26. Literary Jane
27. Sherman or
28. glands
29. Venetian
30. Tropical
31. flower
32. Lode loci
33. NY island
34. Bring joy to
35. Speechify
36. Aye or nay
37. Furthest
38. Tundra
39. titles
40. Ghe the eye
41. Lash mark

Saturday's Puzzle Solver:

ACROSS: 1. RECONCILIATION, 6. WAY OFF, 10. BARN'S RIVER, 13. GYPSY CARD, 14. DOTTED WITH STARS, 15. HAIR STYLE, 16. BALDEDASH, 17. MYTH TYPE, 18. SET TYPE, 19. ENGAGED IN SPYING, 21. PEARY'S DISCOVERY, 22. SAARINEN, 23. LOVED, 24. FRONTAL, 28. EXPRESS, 31. EIGHT PROF., 32. CONTAINER, 34. HARSH TREATMENT, 36. SUPERIOR SKILL, 40. COLE OR WOOD, 42. CLEVER, 43. CHAPLIN'S FRIEND, 45. SHEEN FIGURE, 46. \$1,000, 48. PART OF A SUM, 50. SO FURIOUS, 53. ITALIA'S CAPITAL, 55. A LOGAN, 56. DOMINATE, 57. WHEN I WAS, 58. BARRETT OR JAFFE, 64. LORD OR VESSEL, 65. THEY HIT, 66. COUP D', 67. TEMNYON FORM, 68. VANE DIR., 69. REUNITE, 70. CREDIT.

DOWN: 1. AESTHETISM, 2. CAUTIOUS, 3. DULL, 4. HANDLE, 5. SOUND SYSTEM, 7. FUR TRADER, 7. ARDOR IN, 8. NICE DATE?, 9. BE SORRY, 10. STAGE PART, 11. AN AETNA, 12. LASSOED, 13. ADVANTAGE, 14. PAMPHLET, 15. PART OF A 3-PIECE SUIT, 16. MYTH TYPE, 17. LIKE - OF, 18. BRICKS, 19. NEIGHBORS, 20. NEA WORK, 21. GROWS IN, 22. (CIVIC), 23. MICKEY, 24. OFF, 25. (JUMBED), 26. LITERARY JANE, 27. SHERMAN OR, 28. GLANDS, 29. VENETIAN, 30. TROPICAL, 31. FLOWER, 32. LODGE LOCI, 33. NY ISLAND, 34. BRING JOY TO, 35. SPEECHIFY, 36. AYE OR NAY, 37. FURTHEST, 38. TUNDRA, 39. TITLES, 40. GHE THE EYE, 41. LASH MARK.

## Old Vic wins Irish derby

DUBLIN (R) — Old Vic, with a hole cut in his saddle padding to ease the pain of a painful boil on his back, swept to an effortless victory in the Irish Derby Sunday.

The 11-4 on favourite, ridden by Steve Cauthen, became the first colt to land the French-Irish Derby double since assert in 1982.

He won by an easy four lengths from 12-1 shot observation post with 5-1 chance Ile de Nisky third another two and a half lengths away.

Relieved trainer Henry Cecil said: "It was a nightmare before the race. His back blew up like a great big mountain. We had to bathe it constantly with cold wa-

ter. It was touch and go."

The boil, called a warble, was discovered Saturday night and Old Vic's anxious connections could not be antibiotics in case they showed up in post-race dope tests.

Cauthen made horse racing history with his easy victory, becoming the first jockey to win the Kentucky, Epsom, French and Irish derbies.

Clearly relieved that Old Vic survived the ordeal of his painful boil, beaming Cauthen said: "I

picked him up in the straight and he just shot clear. He won real easy."

The bay son of Sadler's Wells took the lead soon after the eight-horse field came out of the stalls, pursued by Ile de Nisky, fourth in the Epsom Derby to Nashwan, and the mount of Pat Eddery.

As in the French Derby, Old Vic made the running and stepped up the pace turning into the straight.

Ile de Nisky almost got on terms 400 metres from home but Old Vic and Cauthen moved up another gear and it was all over.

Observation Post, ridden by Willie Carson, ran on to deprive Ile de Nisky of second place and for the second year in succession

British challengers filled the first three places.

Cecil said the provisional plan now was to aim Old Vic at the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot, July 22 and then the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in Paris in October.

The Ascot event is the target of Nashwan, but there will have to be plenty of give in the ground for Old Vic to take part in both races.

It was the first Irish Derby win for Cauthen, Cecil and Sheikh Mohammed, whose brother Hamdan Al Maktoum owns Nashwan.

Their relief was plain to see in the unsaddling enclosure at the Curragh.

## Wayne Rainey wins Belgian motor-cycling

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS (R) — American Wayne Rainey profited from the last lap fall of compatriot Kevin Schwantz to win the three-times started Belgian 500-cc motorcycling Grand Prix.

It was the second week in succession Rainey had taken advantage of Schwantz's bad luck. In the Dutch Grand Prix Schwantz suffered ignition problems while leading on the penultimate lap.

Sunday's Grand Prix was run over nine laps instead of 18 after two earlier attempts to stage the

race had been foiled because of crashes on a track made slippery by rain.

It was the fourth victory this season for Yamaha rider Rainey who now holds a 19-point lead over Honda's defending champion Eddie Lawson.

Lawson finished second ahead of another American, Rainey's teammate John Kocinski.

Schwantz was leading comfortably when his front wheel skidded from under him as he was braking for a bend early on the final lap.

"If Kevin had stayed on his

bike, I would have been second," said Rainey, who shook his head in disbelief.

"I was just hanging out there. All I could do was go as fast as I could and then he fell down."

Schwantz, fastest in practice in the last five Grands Prix, has won three races this year but now failed to finish in five others.

In the original race Christian Sarron of France crashed while leading on the sixth lap.

Four riders — Sarron, Lawson,

Schwantz and Rainey — had been locked in a fierce battle when a light drizzle began to fall.

Schwantz waved his left arm at the end of the fifth lap to signal that it had started raining then, slowed down. Sarron crashed 30 seconds after taking the lead from Lawson, but escaped unhurt.

The rain became heavier and organisers halted the second race on the fourth of 13 scheduled laps when Kocinski collided with Australian Michael Doohan.

## U.S. soccer: after the razzamatazz

By Matthew Engel

THE WORLD'S most powerful nation fulfilled an important international fixture in the world's most popular game on Saturday. It took place on a high-school ground in an insignificant New England factory town.

The news from Willow Brook Stadium, New Britain, Connecticut, is that the United States beat Guatemala 2-1 in a World Cup soccer qualifier. This result considerably improves their chances of qualifying for the finals in Italy next year for the first time since 1950 when they beat England 1-0.

The Americans are desperately keen to get through again to wave the Stars and Stripes, gather publicity and maybe beat England again. In 1994 they will not have to qualify: they are the hosts.

Willow Brook Stadium is very pleasant if you like the open air, and I recommended the pretzels; but it is not quite what one had in mind to follow the Azteca Stadium and Roma. There is room for a little polite concern.

Pro soccer in the U.S. gas suffered the usual fate of a flower transplanted to an alien garden. It bloomed magnificently for a while — when Pele played for New York Cosmos — then was flattened by the first frost: the recession of the early 1980s.

The national team plugs on gamely. As well as Guatemala, this group contains Trinidad and Tobago, Costa Rica and El Salva-

dor. These are countries the U.S. would usually only meet if they happened to be invading them. Yet the teams are all well-matched and at New Britain, after the sides traded first-half goals, it took a 75th-minute winner to give the U.S. victory.

New Britain was chosen as the venue because American officials wanted their players to have the encouragement of a packed stadium instead of being embarrassed in an almost empty superdome. In one way, the play worked: all 10,000 tickets were sold weeks in advance. Unfortunately most were snatched up by the Guatemalans of New York and Boston. No one knew there were so many here — including, someone remarked darkly, the immigration department.

The Guatemalans made all the noise, and the young U.S. team looked rather lost, especially as the opposition chose to live up to their regional stereotype, producing some nice touches but a lot more fouling, gesticulating and arguing, often with each other; the defender Funes was sent off for thumping three minutes from time. As Dan Quayle reputedly said, I would like to understand Latin America better and just wish I had learned more Latin.

The Americans were more composed but had the look of players full of talent (and theory, I bet) but urgently in need of that edge that can only come from regular serious competition. At

present, that does not exist here.

The national team plays stacks of games: against universities, European clubs and other countries — Northern Ireland are due in New Britain next month — but few of them mean much.

They get paid too, but only up to \$20,000 a year, the weekly wage of many baseball players. Brent Goulet, who played for Bournemouth, was injured on Saturday; but there were at least five men who were playing who could do a decent job in the English lower divisions and learn a lot in the process.

American soccer needs international success to have a real chance. But its second surge has some power behind it: five million young players of both sexes aged six and upwards.

Every American father I know with a pre-teenage daughter has to spend his Saturday mornings on the touchline shouting "Defence, Jefferson Junior High" or some such.

The problem has been that the more useful raw material for the national team (ie boys) has been less enthusiastic. In any case, almost everyone has been lost to soccer once they have left school.

But the administrators now recognise their problems and, in contrast to the early 1970s, are acting with less flash and more humility.

They have stopped inventing new rules and telling FIFA its

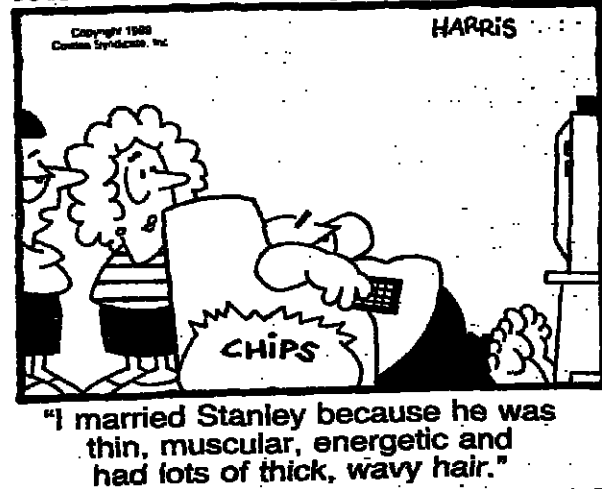
business. They really want to make 1994 a triumph. "We know full well how we've perceived around the world," said Keith Walker, the former Football League referee who is now secretary of the U.S. Soccer Federation. "And when we go outside the country we call it association football."

There is a plan to resume a national league next year, based not on the current half-backed indoor league or indeed on the customary American franchise system at all but on the traditional European model, with promotion and relegation and regional leagues creating a pyramid structure.

It seems optimistic but American soccer is trying to think that way again. The next home World Cup tie, against El Salvador, will be staged in a 20,000-capacity stadium and officials promise that in 1994, with visitors from around the world, there will be big gates in big stadiums with the final quite possibly at the grand Joe Robbie Stadium in Miami, which is not at all the same as New Britain.

The most optimistic thing of all is the way the coach, Bob Gansler, and his players refer, in the American manner, to their forthcoming away games in the World Cup as "a road trip". I'm fascinated to know how they plan to reach Trinidad by road — (The Guardian)

### THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



### JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

UGGEA

EBILE

SERBIC

NITDAY

WHEN THE PRICE OF SUGAR ESCALATED, THE CUSTOMERS DID THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: BRAND FROZE SIZZLE INFECT  
Answer: He went unrecognized when he had this HS "FEZ" LIFTED

### Peanuts

I HAVE TO HAVE A BIBLE STORY TO TELL BY SUNDAY MORNING.

I WAS THINKING OF DANIEL IN THE 49ERS' DEN.

LIONS' DEN

WHATEVER

Release Thursday

B.C.

I HAD THE MOST EXHILARATING DREAM LAST NIGHT...

I DREAMT THAT EVERYONE IN THE WHOLE ENTIRE WORLD WAS STUPIDER THAN ME!

THAT WOULD STILL LEAVE YOU PRETTY STUPID.

ANDY CAPP

I WAS ONLY HAVING A BIT OF FUN. I DON'T ALLOW MYSELF TO ENJOY MYSELF ANY MORE!

SLEEP ON IT, ANDY. YOU TAKE THINGS MUCH TOO SERIOUSLY.

THAT'S HIS TROUBLE. HE'S ALWAYS TOO SERIOUS, ESPECIALLY ABOUT FUN.



# I killed, 30 wounded Premadasa escapes festival bombing

COLOMBO (AP) — A bomb exploded early Sunday at a crowded festival attended by President Rana-singhe Premadasa, senior members of his cabinet and other lawmakers, police said.

Premadasa and the lawmakers watched the ceremonies from a secret, well-guarded location and were not injured in the attack, police said, but at least one person was killed and 30 others wounded, many critically.

No one claimed responsibility for the blast, which occurred shortly after midnight (1930 GMT Saturday) in Mahiyangana, 130 kilometres northeast of Colombo.

Police refused to say whether the attack was directed at Premadasa. But they blamed members of the People's Liberation Front, a left-wing Sinhalese group that has been trying to overthrow the Sinhalese-dominated government.

Meanwhile, in the Sinhalese-dominated south, security forces early Sunday arrested 2,327 Sinhalese youths suspected of belonging to the front, according to a police official in Colombo. It was the largest single crackdown against the extremist People's Liberation Front in nearly two years, said the official, who cannot be identified under briefing rules.

According to police in Mahiyangana, several armed youths entered the grounds where 200,000 to 300,000 people had gathered for the 11th annual village reawakening festival and detonated the bomb near the main stage.

The exhibition is aimed at encouraging people to build better houses for themselves and to repair neglected villages. Premadasa, who took office in January, regards it as a top priority in alleviating rural poverty.

The attack, the first ever against such a festival, came in spite of heightened security measures, which included posting a large number of military commands around the grounds.

The festival is scheduled to close Monday. The front has been blamed for more than 3,500 killings since July 1987, when Indian peacekeeping forces arrived on this Indian Ocean island to enforce a peace accord between the government and the Tamil minority.

The front contends the accord grants too many concessions to the Tamils and the presence of the Indian soldiers threatens Sri Lanka's sovereignty. Front members have vowed to kill anyone who supports the pact.

Armed with automatic weapons and empowered by tough emergency laws, soldiers and police raided homes and arrested 3,200 suspected radicals, said the official.

Armed troops also forced open a hostel and arrested 37 medical interns who allegedly belong to the front.

The weekend newspaper Sun

claimed the medical faculty of Colombo University has been the vanguard of the front's anti-government campaign.

The police official declined to comment on the newspaper's claim but confirmed the roundup was ordered after a number of Sinhalese radical leaders were arrested and interrogated.

The newspaper said the leaders were taken to a sports area, where hooded men travelling in slow-moving army jeeps pointed out leaders. The hooded men, it said, were former front leaders who had turned government informers.

The deployment of Indian soldiers has become a contentious issue between the Indian and Sri Lankan governments.

Last month, Premadasa asked India to pull out its troops by the end of July. India refused, saying a hasty withdrawal could lead to even more ethnic violence on the troubled island.

India deployed troops to Sri Lanka under a peace accord signed by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Premadasa's predecessor, Junius R. Jayewardene.

The Indian-sponsored accord, which gave Tamils limited autonomy in exchange for surrender of weapons, was rejected by the militant Tamils.

India became involved in the ethnic problems of its southern neighbour because its own 60 million Tamils are sympathetic to the rebel cause. At least 800 Indian soldiers and 1,500 Tamils have been killed.



Immigrants caught trying to enter Hong Kong

## Vietnam's outcasts live in filth on Hong Kong islands

HONG KONG (R) — Two months ago, the beaches on Tai a Chau in Hong Kong's Soko Islands were deserted and clean, visited occasionally by pleasure boats carrying shouting children.

Now they are covered with excrement and littered with the debris of Vietnamese boat people.

Half derelict fishing boats, some used as makeshift dwellings, lie packed along the shoreline. The tiny anchorage is dominated by the menacing grey patrol boats of the British colony's marine police.

Gathered near the jetty, under a large British flag on a hastily erected bamboo flagpole, are some of the islands' 4,900 temporary inhabitants.

Hong Kong's refugee camps and detention centres are bursting at the seams with some 47,500 boat people and the government decided last month to send new arrivals to the deserted Soko Islands.

The future looks bleak for boat people in Hong Kong which now classifies them as illegal immigrants unless they can prove they are genuine refugees — and only a handful do. The only option now remaining is to return to the land they fled.

Some 142 have already returned voluntarily and another

236 are waiting to go.

### Forced repatriation

Diplomatic sources say Britain, Hong Kong and Vietnam have reached basic agreement on forced repatriation, which could start towards the end of this month.

A walk along the shore of Tai a Chau takes a visitor to what Police Superintendent Rod Colson ironically calls "the residential quarter."

Flies buzz round piles of garbage and the stench of excrement hangs heavy in the humid air. Groups of Vietnamese sit or lie listlessly under awnings provided by the British Army or makeshift shelters made of plastic and driftwood.

"Hello, cigarette?" is the constant cry from the ragged, barefoot children who never leave a visitor's side.

"You American. I want to go America," said Huang, a man in his early 20s with the eyes of an old man.

Momentarily downcast when he discovered his visitor was British — "I no go England" — he explained how he had come with his family from the Haiphong area of northern Vietnam.

"We got into a fishing boat, 122 people, pay gold. We go

several times to China, but we want to come to Hong Kong," he said.

They had been aware of Hong Kong's tough policy which made it virtually certain that Huang, a street trader, would be held as an illegal immigrant pending repatriation.

Huang said he and his family still hoped to go to the United States, a wish prevalent among many boat people.

The boat people can live where they like in the Sokos for two or three weeks until they are moved to a detention centre.

Group leaders are assigned ration cards but to reduce the threat to disease, no food is issued unless the group turns in a plastic bag full of garbage.

Colson said the police were gradually refurbishing derelict buildings on the island and would be erecting a canteen.

"Right now we can't give them rice. They get baked beans, tinned fish, and biscuits," he said.

"I think they are getting to the point where they'll be throwing the baked beans at us," he added.

Government health workers spray the areas where the boat people live to get rid of flies and police say they are educating their charges to clear up rubbish and use designated latrines.

## Hong Kong demands British action

HONG KONG (R) — About 10,000 demonstrators marched to Hong Kong airport Sunday and pleaded with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe to take action to protect the colony's people when they are handed over to Chinese rule in 1997.

Protest organisers gave a letter to Howe's private secretary demanding the right of Hong Kong people to live in Britain, full democracy for Hong Kong, and the drafting of a law guaranteeing human rights in the colony.

Demonstrators shouted "Protest, Protest" as Howe's car left the airport gate past a poster which read: "Britain — God remember your decision."

He drove straight to government house, home and office of Hong Kong Governor Sir David Wilson.

Howe arranged his fact-finding visit after the Chinese authorities ruthlessly suppressed anti-government protests in Peking last month, killing hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people and horrifying an already apprehensive Hong Kong.

Howe told reporters at the airport: "The whole world has condemned the violence and repression we have all witnessed in China in the last few weeks... you feel threatened and beleaguered by what has happened."

He said he had come "to emphasise that Britain's commitment to Hong Kong and its people is resolute and unchanged."

The protest organisers, "Hong Kong People Saving Hong Kong," said they had collected 600,000 signatures on a petition which a delegation would take to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during a visit to Britain from July 10 to 16.

Their letter to Howe asked for a meeting with him and Thatcher during the visit.

The demonstrators assembled in a sports ground and marched to the airport in blazing early afternoon heat, shouting slogans and carrying banners. One read: "Hong Kong people's safety — Britain's responsibility."

Police estimated the crowd at about 10,000, fewer than the organisers had hoped. Demonstrators in Hong Kong in May to support the anti-government protests in Peking attracted hundreds of thousands of people.

A spokesman for the organisers, Methodist minister Lung Kwong Lo, told the demonstration that some people had given up hope since the foreign affairs committee of the British parliament issued a report Friday supporting the government's refusal to give Hong Kong people right of abode in Britain.

"They think that means we have only a slim hope. This is not the right attitude. We are not backing away, we are trying to get our rights back," he declared.

"The British government has a legal and moral responsibility towards the people of Hong Kong. The British government has no right to give six million people over to a brutal government in 1997," he said.

Several hundred expatriates in yellow T-shirts earlier rallied outside the Hong Kong legislative council building to support the campaign for Chinese residents to have right of abode in Britain.

Protesters held up a large mock British Hong Kong passport, with "Mr. Hong Kong" written in the name space and "3,250,000" in the space reserved for the passport number — the number of those who have the right to a Hong Kong British passport.

## COLUMN

### Britons rush to become astronauts

LONDON (AP) — "Astronaut wanted. No experience necessary," blared a full-page ad in London newspapers Friday. The response was overwhelming. Within the first three hours after 16 telephone lines for applications opened, more than 1,000 people called seeking to get aboard the first joint Anglo-Soviet space mission, named Juno. "All the line are being used virtually all the time," said Nigel Barstow, telephone supervisor for a recruitment agency, MSE International. Under the agreement signed in Moscow Thursday, Britain's first astronaut will accompany two cosmonauts to the Soviet orbiting station Mir in 1991. A cartoon in London's Today newspaper showed Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, looking outraged, floating in space in a pressure suit. "I know you didn't apply, comrade Prime Minister," a Soviet cosmonaut is saying. "Thirty million of your countrymen nominated you." Those who do apply must be aged between 21 and 40, have a formal scientific training, proven ability to learn a foreign language and a proven knack for getting along with foreigners. Early applicants included a physicist, an ex-pilot and an 18-year-old schoolboy who was rejected immediately as too young.

### Pain doesn't stop judge

KINGSTON, New York (AP) — A judge who suffered a back injury near the end of a murder trial decided Wednesday that it was better to lie down on the job than to delay justice. Judge Francis Vogt ordered a hospital bed placed in the courtroom where he heard attorneys' summations Wednesday and sent the case of Jose Torres to the jury for deliberations. Torres was found guilty of manslaughter in the fatal stabbing last summer of a man outside a city bar. He will be sentenced July 14.

### Trump looks for new boat

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Trump is looking for another yacht after deciding his 89-metre Trump Princess was too small for his entertainment needs. The new superyacht will cost about \$140 million, the New York Post and New York Newsday reported Wednesday. Trump said he is accepting bids from boat builders for "something in excess of 122 metres long, closer to 152 metres." The billionaire developer said he needs a bigger boat to entertain high-rollers from his two booming Atlantic City casinos. Trump bought the princess from the Sultan of Brunei for \$29 million and refitted it at a cost of \$10 million last year. The yacht, with 11 suites, 210 telephones, gold-plated fittings and a disco, was lampooned in the comic strip "Doomsday." Trump has received a \$219-million bid for the Trump Princess, the Post said. The newspaper quoted an unidentified source as saying the new yacht will have an Olympic-size pool.

### Monkeys on the run in U.S., Canada

HEMMINGFORD, Quebec (AP) — About 80 Japanese monkeys were on the loose after escaping from a safari park and some crossed the nearby U.S. border, zoo officials said. The monkeys had escaped Thursday morning, said Danny Kyle, an owner of Parc Safari, some 90 kilometres southeast of Montreal. "Apparently they managed to find or create a faulty hinge on the door" to their compound, Kyle said.

### Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	W.
AMSTERDAM	14	22	Cloudy
ATHENS	10	25	Clear
BAHRAIN	28	34	Clear
BANGKOK	25	34	Clear
Buenos Aires	14	24	Clear
CAIRO	23	32	Clear
CHICAGO	23	34	Clear
COPENHAGEN	13	27	Clear
FRANKFURT	15	27	Clear
GENEVA	16	27	Clear
HONG KONG	25	37	Clear
ISTANBUL	18	34	Clear
LONDON	14	24	Clear
LOS ANGELES	18	28	Clear
MADRID	17	37	Clear
MECCA	26	46	Clear
MONTREAL	13	22	Clear
MOSCOW	16	27	Clear
NEW DELHI	27	40	Clear
NEW YORK	21	34	Clear
PARIS	15	27	Clear
ROME	15	28	Clear
TOKYO	19	32	Clear
VIENNA	14	27	Clear

## Sihanouk worried over eroding backing

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei (AP) — Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, seeing his international support eroding, has asked South-East Asian countries to keep the resistance's interests in mind during their annual foreign ministers meeting, an official said Sunday.

The decade-old battle for Cambodia was expected to top the agenda at the meeting here Monday and Tuesday of the ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN). This time, however, the ministers will be trying to maintain the rapid pace of peace diplomacy instead of berating the slow progress.

Sihanouk expressed his concerns in a letter that his son, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, delivered here Saturday to Brunei's Foreign Minister Prince Mohammad Bolkah, according to the secretary general of the Brunei Foreign Ministry, Lim Jock Seng.

Lim told the Associated Press the letter urged that the ASEAN ministers' discussions "should ensure a complete settlement of the Cambodian conflict and not a partial settlement." It said the interests of the resistance "should be taken care of," Lim said.

Ranariddh told Bolkah the resistance hoped that France and other nations at an upcoming international conference in Paris

will not impose a settlement but allow the warring parties to negotiate their own peace, Lim said.

The resistance also fears that some countries favouring the Vietnamese-installed government in Cambodia may give it the leading role in a new government to be established after the war, said a senior ASEAN official who insisted he not be identified.

The ASEAN ministers, key backers of the resistance, are expected to agree on a united stand on the Cambodian diplomacy.

A session later in the week with Western "dialogue partners" will bring to the fore economic issues including quarrels over protectionism but also proposals by Japan, Australia and the United States for new cooperation in the Asia and Pacific region.

ASEAN comprises the non-communist, rapidly developing countries of Brunei, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines. The dialogue partners are Japan, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the 12-nation European Community.

ASEAN has spearheaded an international campaign to remove the estimated 60,000 to 70,000 troops still in Cambodia almost 11 years after Vietnam sent its army in.



Sosuke Uno

## Uno faces crucial test in Tokyo elections

TOKYO (R) — The political future of Prime Minister Sosuke Uno was on the line Sunday as voters in the Japanese capital went to the polls for crucial municipal elections.

Enmeshed in a web of lurid sex scandals and increasingly seen as a political liability, the prime minister may step down as early as this week if the ruling party fares badly in the polls, political analysts and government officials said.

"I'm not sure how long Uno can hold on to power," said a Foreign Ministry official who declined to be identified.

Political analysts said they expect the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to lose heavily because of voter resentment over a newly-introduced sales tax and disaste over Uno's alleged affair with geisha girls and the Recruit bribery scandal.

The first election results are not expected until midday Monday.

Political analysts said female voters will play a key role in determining the outcome of the polls.

"I am voting for an opposition female candidate," declared Fuyumi Mori, a housewife and artist, on her way to the polls. "Sex scandals... you just cannot expect understanding of these kinds of things from women."

A record 33 women are among 246 candidates in the election for the 128-seat local government. The LDP now has 63 seats.

The LDP's heavy defeat last Sunday in a by-election in Nagata prefecture, a traditional LDP stronghold north of Tokyo, was partly attributed to female voters who disapproved of Uno's private life.

"The time is over when politicians could keep geishas for money without causing public criticism. It is just too insulting for women," said Toshiro Tomida, a male foreign exchange dealer.

Focus, a popular weekly picture magazine, reported Friday that Uno had an affair with an underage apprentice geisha. It also said that an Uno aide was found to belong to a prostitution club.

That followed allegations of other Uno affairs with geishas and bar hostesses.

## Gorbachev to push for 'common European home' on French visit

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is expected to seek economic aid for modernising industry and to outline his grandiose vision of a "common European home" when he visits France later this week.

But Gorbachev, greeted with adulation by crowds in West Germany last month, can expect a more reserved reception from the French during his three-day stay from July 4 to 6.

A lucrative trade deal is unlikely as is any undertaking approaching a declaration of principles in bilateral relations concluded amid much fanfare with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Relations with France were severely strained after President Francois Mitterrand began his first term in office in 1981 with Paris denouncing human rights abuses and supporting the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe.

But Gorbachev chose France as his first stop in the West after becoming Communist Party chief in 1985 and relations have since improved steadily, with the two leaders meeting practically every year.

Since his re-election last year, Mitterrand has also been developing France's weak relations with Eastern Europe and has so far visited Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Poland, with a further trip planned to East Germany.

France's socialist government has encouraged Gorbachev's "perestroika" programme of social and economic reforms and an opinion poll last week showed two in three respondents had a positive opinion of the Soviet leader.

Both French and Soviet officials predict few ripples in the talks, with even the delicate question of France's independent nuclear deterrent unlikely to cause public disagreement.

Moscow has long demanded French nuclear missiles be counted as short-range weapons in global disarmament talks. Mitterrand repeated his firm opposition to this at the May North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) summit.

"I think the issue will be raised but we shall be wise enough not to stress it," said Anatoly Utkin, a specialist on France at Moscow's USA and Canada Institute.

This is particularly so at a time of very complicated relations with the United States. Things are not nearly as clear as they were a year ago.

The climax of Gorbachev's visit could come during his speech to the council of Europe's parliamentary assembly in Strasbourg — an ideal platform to provide more detail on his so-far vague ideal of a common home embracing Eastern and Western Europe.

## Madrid speeds into traffic chaos

By Francois Raitberger  
Reuter

MADRID — "The final traffic jam we all feared has happened. Madrid is a gridlock," the radio said.

"Follow instructions from police helicopters. Lock your car, leave the keys with a policeman and walk home. Your keys will be returned tomorrow."

Motorists hopelessly stranded for more than an hour turned up the volume of their car radios and looked worriedly around for a policeman before the radio continued:

"Of course this was fiction, but it could happen."

This worst-case scenario, broadcast recently by Spanish state radio, did indeed sound probable to thousands of motorists trapped daily in Madrid's worsening traffic jams.

Authorities say this city of three million people is approaching saturation as the number, and the size, of cars

balloons in an economic boom. In heavy traffic, the slightest incident causes immediate congestion.

Striking bus workers set up a barricade on the eastern motorway to Barajas airport during the morning rush hour earlier this month. Police said the burning tyres were cleared within minutes, but jams of up to 20 kilometres still built up.

There are no trains to the airport, and hundreds of people missed their flights. Some desperate travellers were seen carrying their luggage towards the airport, 10 kilometres from the city. More relaxed motorists left their cars in the middle of the jams to have coffee in nearby bars.

A few days later, a water pipe burst and flooded the southwestern motorway. Radio stations reported queues of cars stretching 40 kilometres.

"You can see that we are very close to saturation point because rush hours are getting longer and longer," Sebastian

de la Rica, director of Madrid's traffic department, said as he surveyed the city's worst-congested areas on a battery of closed circuit television screens.

His department says there are 1.1 million vehicles registered in Madrid. Half a million more converge on the city every day from outlying towns which are growing faster than public transport can serve them.

"They all want a car," fumed one of Madrid's 15,500 taxi drivers, gesturing at surrounding cars, all empty save for the driver.

He complained that business was going down because clients preferred to walk rather than sit in traffic jams with the meter running, while his petrol and maintenance costs were going up.

According to official figures, average traffic speed in the city dropped from 25 kilometres per hour (kph) to 15 kph in seven years. In the narrower streets of the ancient centre, rush hour

traffic crawls at five kph.

While the number of public parking spaces increased by 19,040 over the past three years, the number of cars went up by 160,000. Last April alone 20,000 new cars arrived on the streets.

A survey by the newspaper Ya said the monthly rental of private parking places had gone up by between 200 and 500 per cent in the last four years, reaching more than \$150 in the Salamanca business district.

Authorities have calculated that up to 20 per cent of traffic is made up of drivers vainly looking for a parking space, and double-parking has become the norm despite the dreaded police "grua" (crane), which tows away illegally parked cars. Triple-parking is common.

Spaniards take double parking kindly. If a car blocks your way out, you just hoot your horn until the driver comes hurrying slowly out of a nearby bar, shop or office.

